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

See next page for Telegraphic News.

AFRICAN COLONIZATION.—In the various notices of Colonization proceedings, we frequently see that such and such persons have agreed to manumit their slaves, on condition that they be sent to Liberia, in a body; and the public is appealed to for aid to accomplish the object. This, in our view, is not the right way to promote the great and good cause of Colonization.

If colonization was, or could possibly be, a remedy for slavery, by removing the African race from this country to the land of their fathers, there would be some propriety in this; but as no one, we presume, indulges in the utopian idea that the people of this country will ever consent to bear the enormous expense of removing slavery in this way, even were the slave holders to consent to it, which they will not, we think it wrong to embarrass the cause of colonization, by attempting a show of mitigating an evil which it never can eradicate in this way. The thing is not possible. All the gold in the mines of California would not suffice for such a work.

In selecting persons to transport to Liberia, at the expense of public benevolence, one object only ought to be considered—the fitness of the emigrant to promote the welfare of the colony. To pour upon the barbarous coast of Africa, two or three hundred emigrants, merely because they were freed by some slave owner, without the least regard to their morals, their intelligence, or their personal fitness for the great objects of colonization, it appears to us is an evil rather than a blessing, and to press such a view is well calculated to dry up all the springs of discriminating benevolence.

Colonization, to prosper, must be wholly separated from all connection with slavery, and with slave abolition. It is a distinct, separate, independent work. If fitting persons for colonists are freed, on condition of their removal, send them—The benevolent heart will rejoice that another manacle is broken, and that the cause of colonization is promoted at the same time. But in no case send any who are unfit and unprepared for the work of promoting civilization and Christianity in Africa.

In this way the abolition of slavery will be a thousand times more promoted, than by the emancipation of a few hundred individuals, here and there,—which are but as a drop in the ocean—because the reflex influence of an intelligent and Christian nation of the negro race, on the shores of Africa, will be too much, finally, for slave holders to resist. Then shall the bondmen go free, not in Africa, but in America.

THE SOUTHERN CONVENTION.—This self-constituted body, it seems, reversed the decision of their committee, at its meeting on Monday evening.—We learn, by letters from Washington, that the committee, at its meeting on Saturday evening agreed to adopt the address of Mr. Calhoun, as modified and amended by Mr. Berrien and others. The amended address is said to be a very conciliatory document, being addressed to the whole Union, instead of the South alone.

This mild course, however, did not suit the Convention; for our telegraphic despatches yesterday informed our readers that the meeting on Monday evening rejected the report of the committee, and adopted one of an ultra shape. We presume this was brought about by the withdrawal of most of the moderate men, leaving only a rump convention of ultra factionists, who then had every thing their own way. The proceeding will do no particular harm, except to those individuals prominent in it, who have thus sealed their own political death-warrant. They will soon go into the oblivion which every enemy of our Union deserves.

DEATH BY SHOOTING.—On Tuesday evening last, says the Cumberland Alleganian, Mr. Michael Allwine, a stage driver, who has been in the employ of the National Road Stage Company, and formerly of Zanesville, Ohio, was shot by William G. Mitchell, a young man, of Cumberland, at a house of ill-fame, occupied by Peter Shearman. Medical aid was promptly obtained, but the wound was of a fatal character, and Allwine died the following Thursday evening. An inquest was held over the body, but the decision had not been announced.—It appears that both Mitchell and Allwine had for sometime past been visiting a degraded female who resided in the house, and on Tuesday evening they met there together. A word or two passed between them, when Mitchell left the house, went to a neighboring store, borrowed a pistol from a young man who assisted in loading it, returned to Shearman's, and there again meeting Allwine discharged the pistol at him—the load entering his stomach. Mitchell, after perpetrating the deed, escaped, and is still at large.

RAILROADS.—Our readers will be pleased to see by a correspondence in another column, that they are to have the pleasure, on Friday evening, of hearing a Lecture from SOLOMON W. ROBERTS, Esq. Chief Engineer of the Pennsylvania and Ohio Railroad, on the interests of Pittsburgh as connected with Railroads. As people are generally alive to what concerns their pecuniary interests, and the growth and prosperity of the community in which they live, we may look for a large meeting, as there is certainly no subject now before the public mind of this city, not excepting the gold Mines of California, of so vast a pecuniary interest, as the subject of Mr. ROBERTS' Lecture.

HON. ASHBEL STEWART.—The Whig Congressmen from the State of Pennsylvania held a meeting in the Capitol on Saturday evening, and adopted a resolution asking from General Taylor the Treasury Department in the Cabinet for Pennsylvania, and fixed upon the Hon. Andrew Stewart as Secretary for that office.

This will be gratifying intelligence to Mr. Stewart's numerous friends, not only in this State, but throughout the country. The compliment must also be exceedingly gratifying to Mr. Stewart, whose long and arduous services in Congress have rendered his name familiar in every State of the Union.

SECRETARY OF STATE.—The following paragraph is from the Richmond (Va.) Daily Southerner It is not improbable:

"We have it from the best authority that Mr. Crittenden has declined accepting the office of Secretary of State, and at his solicitation, the office is to be tendered to, and will be accepted by John M. Clayton. It is no idle rumor, for it is from the lips of both General Taylor and Mr. Crittenden. We are not at liberty to say how we obtained the information, yet the result will prove that we have made no mistake.

Among the present visiters at Washington are Ex-Governor Seward, Ex-Collector Curtis, and Hugh Maxwell, Esq., of New York: Ex Governor Crawford, of Georgia; Ex-Senator Ewing, of Ohio and Ex-Senator Norvell, of Michigan.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY.—At a meeting of this corporation, held on Thursday last, the name of Jared Sparks, LL. D., was submitted for the Presidency, in place of the Hon. Edward Everett, resigned. The nomination is subject to the confirmation of the Board of Overseers, which will meet on the first of February next.

WISCONSIN SENATOR.—The Legislature of Wisconsin, on the 17th inst. elected the Hon. J. Walker, United States Senator for six years from the 4th of March next. Mr. W. is a member of the present Senate, and was the Cass candidate for re-election.

CABLE ENGAGED NEWS EXPRESS.—The Ocean Steam Navigation Company's ship United States was to leave Southampton on the 7th inst. and is therefore about due. Her advices will be eight days later from those received per America.

THE friends of Colonization should not forget the meeting to be held in Allegheny this evening.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20, 1849.

The *quid nunes* say that Mr Clay would never be journeying to Washington with the President elect, unless something extraordinary and remarkable was about to happen. They therefore think that Mr Clay will decline to accept the station of Senator from Kentucky, if tendered to him, and that he will enter the Cabinet as Secretary of State; and that he will be the master spirit of the administration. This, I take to be a mere conjecture, repeated and circulated to give point to the gossip of the capital. As such only, I represent it to your readers.

The Senate held a short executive session yesterday, and ratified one of Mr Medill's Indian treaties—that with the Menominees, I believe—by which they surrender to the United States large tracts of land, lying within the State and Territory of Wisconsin. By the way, alluding to the Commissioner of Indian affairs, I may mention, that as far as the committee of investigation have gone they find the charges against his official integrity and uprightness groundless.

Mr Calhoun continues much indisposed. His friends are too exacting. I am told that since the commencement of the movement for the Southern caucus, his room has been crowded day and night, with members from the South, consulting, advising, and inquiring as to what was to be done. Thus his mind has been kept in a continual state of agitation, and his bodily powers have been exhausted. It is said that the attack which he experienced yesterday, was more lasting and serious than that on the day before.

A question has arisen as to the eligibility of Gen. Shields, reported to have been elected to the Senate, by the Illinois Legislature. He is a native of Ireland, and as is stated, was naturalized in October, 1840. The Constitution of the United States requires that Senators shall be either natives of the United States, or that they shall have been at least nine years citizens thereof. Now the term for which General Shields has been elected commences March 4th. He cannot, is the opinion of some Senators, then take his seat, because not qualified in the respect of longevity of citizenship; nor can the Governor of the State appoint him in the interim, although the cause of disqualification will cease in October next, because the Legislature has not failed to elect, which is said to be the only contingency in which he is empowered to make an appointment.

The Pacheco claim has been decided as I have all along thought it would be. It has been allowed by seven majority. Whether anything was justly due for the negro, I think extremely doubtful, but the "Union" which is paid an immense sum yearly out of the national treasury, for keeping up a surveillance over southern interests at the capital, claps its hands over the passage of the bill, without a word of comment or enquiry as to its merits, and crows right lustily in congratulation over the triumph of a Southern measure. This is the miserable, narrow, sectional spirit which has characterized that journal during the whole time that it has been tugging away at the teats of the treasury, and which has probably done as much as any other single thing that can be named, to disgust the people of the north of all parties, with the existing administration. They are willing to throw bones to a beggar, but they will not endure that he shall stand at their front door and revile them at all their incomings and outgoings.

Mr Schenck has proposed a scheme for the mode, and the amount of the compensation of members of Congress, as a substitute for all motions and suggestions for the reformation of the admitted abuses of the present system of charging mileage. This has been adopted in committee o the whole, by a large majority, but it remains to be seen whether members will have the boldness to record their names in its favor, on the journals of the House, and to appear before their constituents as its supporters. Mr Schenck's plan is to give to each member a stated yearly salary o $2,000 in lieu of all his per diem pay, and instead of the rate of mileage under the present law, which I believe, is forty cents per mile, only ten cents a mile, the distance to be calculated, however, by the usually travelled route. Beside the objectionable feature of allowing a year's salary for three or four months' service, this scheme would perpetuate all the abuses now so much and so justly complained of, in the calculation and allowance of mileage. The rate is nothing. It is the temptation to travel, or to be considered as travelling, when sent home, holds out, which ought to be effectually removed. Probably the average pay of a member of Congress, under this arrangement would be about $2,500. I venture to say, that no man could long withstand the popular odium that would attach to any connection with such a project, should it pass into a law. It will be said that some thirty years ago, a law was passed, establishing the regular yearly salary of $1,500 for members. Henry Clay was the only man who voted for it, who survived the stern, popular, dissatisfaction which it excited. John Randolph lost his great popularity by means of that measure, and never recovered it.

It is understood that the nomination of Colonel Duncan as Inspector General, meets with opposition in the Senate, on account of his having taken sides with General Pillow, in the famous controversy between him and Gen. Scott. This, however, would not be sufficient to endanger the success of the nomination, but for the fact, that it is honestly thought that there is no need of two Inspector Generals of the army, and that the present occasion of the death of one of them, affords an excellent opportunity for abolishing the office rendered vacant by his decease. JUNIUS.

FROM NEW YORK.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

NEW YORK, Jan. 20, 1849.

The symptoms of returning animation in business grows stronger daily, and the whole commercial machinery of the city will soon be in operation. The arrival of packets has caused a large demand for bank accommodations, and at the last discount day, more paper was offered than the banks cared to discount. This renewal of the demand for money does not increase the rate of money in the street; and first class paper still sells at seven and eight per cent per annum, and large sums have been invested in bonds and mortgage at six per cent for six years.

Coin begins to accumulate in the Sub-Treasury from two causes: first, from the payments on duties, and again, from the payments on the new loan. The price has risen so rapidly, that the takers of the loan are inclined to complete their payments, and retain the present handsome profit. Treasury Notes are being funded very rapidly, and the expiration of the term allowed for this purpose will see few Treasury Notes afloat.

The great demand for ships in the California trade, has caused this species of property to be held more firmly, and in many cases an advance has been paid. The diversion of so many vessels is having almost as good an effect upon freights as the Mexican War; and ship masters are confident that high rates will soon be the order of the day. Could we have a restoration of the grain trade, as was the case while the Mexican War called for so many transports, our commercial mariner would reap a rich harvest.

Our great fancy ball was rather a failure, and hardly paid its expenses. The fashionable world would not go because the possessors of dollars would be there to contaminate their gentility by their plebeian manners; while these same plebeians gave the whole affair the cold shoulder, thinking very properly, that the amusement was rather expensive, and that specimens of the upper ten thousand could be seen cheaper elsewhere.

A great many old Whig politicians have passed through the city lately, *en route* for Washington, to see General Taylor inaugurated, and be within call should he need any one to help administer the government, or find that some noisy democrats now hold profitable places. It is safe to say that patriotism is remarkably abundant just now.

Letters have been received here from Valparaiso stating that considerable sums of California gold have been received there, on New York account. One house here, in the China and West Coast of America trade, has received $100,000, on account of goods sold, and expects more at the next arrival. A leading house of this city has sent an agent to California with a large quantity of sail, with the intention of going into the beef packing business, a trade that promises large profits.

In markets there has not been much activity for the past two days. The sales have been small at low prices for Flour, Grain, and most articles of provisions. Cotton on the other hand has improved, and ¼ cent advance has been paid, with sales of 2,000 bales in the day. The arrivals of provisions are large, but a good proportion is gone and sells very cheap; some lots having been closed at 4½ cents for hams. Flour droops very materially, and dealers feel little confidence of a rise upon the opening of the English ports. The closing price of straight State Flour is $5 6¼@$5 68. Ohio Mess Pork, $13 50@13 75; for Mess $12 50@12 75 for prime; a fall of about one dollar and a half per barrel, upon the highest market of the season. A cargo of new Teas were sold yesterday, chiefly new black: prices were 2@3 cents under the nominal private sales, but 25 per cent higher than the sales of last spring. Groceries generally are held firmly, and early openings of business is confidently anticipated. c.

COLONIZATION.

To the Editors of the Pittsburgh Gazette:

MR. EDITOR—In the account of the Colonization meeting of last Thursday evening, published in your paper of the 20th instant, I am represented as saying—'Every intelligent colored man was, *de facto*, a missionary, publishing the gospel to his fellow men.' I did not use language so strong and as the proposition, in the very brief epitome of the proceedings by the reporter, is unconnected with the argument or illustration used at the time, and may be perverted, I shall be obliged to you for room in your paper to make a proper correction.

I said that every colonist, or intelligent colonist was, or might be considered, a missionary, in a *modified sense of the term*, and that he, in his sphere, was, in a measure, engaged in the same work as the missionary, in extending the blessings of civilized and Christianized life.

On this point I dwelt briefly, though at sufficient length, I thought, to explain my meaning. In a sermon preached on the 31st ultimo, in the Second Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, from the text 'Ethiopia shall soon stretch out her hands unto God' Psalm 68:31, I discussed the topic at some length, and now request publication of an extract from it, as well to present it fully, as to show my deliberate conviction of the excellence of the Colonization cause, in one of the many aspects in which it may be viewed.

'2. The establishment of colonies on the Western Coast of Africa, on the plan of the American Colonization Society will, however, it is hoped, do much more than merely abolish the slave trade on her borders. It will, we trust, spread civilization, sound morals, and true religion *far into the interior*. The colonization enterprise is one, then, of a missionary character. Its friends, who best understand and appreciate its merits, support it in this view. The spread of the gospel is closely connected with it, and, thus considered, it is one of the noblest enterprises of true Christian benevolence ever undertaken by man. Circumstances peculiar to Africa call for missionary enterprize on the Colonization plan. This mode, as we have seen, and this mode only, appears likely to put an end to the slave trade, and *this* is requisite not only to her relief from temporal misery, but to her cordial reception of the gospel. A degraded people, harassed as the unhappy Africans, on her Western Borders, by the evil practice of the slave, are in no suitable frame to embrace the gospel at the hands of those whom they identify with their wrong doers. The feeling of prejudice against white men, by reason of the long train of aggravated injuries received at their hands, must operate injuriously on the adoption of a religion introduced by them, as matters stand. The climate of Africa, too, is not congenial to the constitution of the white man, going as a missionary in the ordinary mode. The colonies on the coast of Africa will not only protect against the slave trade, but be fields for missionary labor by direct action and indirect influence on the borders, and in the interior of Africa. Many native colonies continue to dwell in territory ceded to the Colony, while they are under the civil jurisdiction of its government, and retain their own towns and personal property. Thus they see daily the benefits of Christianity and civilization, and are prepared to embrace them. The Colonization Society thus deviates from the mode adopted by other missionary institutions, and employs as agents those brethren of the very people sought to be converted. It proposes to send not one or two pious men, preachers of righteousness, into a foreign land, among a different and perhaps suspicious race, of another complexion, but to transport annually, for a number of years, the descendants of Africans themselves, of the same sympathies and constitutions with the natives. The colony is to operate not only by preaching of the gospel—for all who go are not missionaries, in the ordinary sense of the term;—but to clear forests, to build houses and churches, to establish government, and in every possible mode practically to exhibit and commend the blessings of social and religious life. The experiment is in fair prosecution, and the success thus far attending it, is such as to gladden the philanthropist and Christian.'

I cannot conclude this communication without expressing the obligation I feel to yourself, Mr. Editor, and to a number of your professional brethren, for the influence you have exerted in behalf of this cause, in which, by the providence of God, I have been called to minister. WM. M. HALL,

Agent of Pennsylvania Colonization Society.

Pittsburgh, 23d January, 1849.

ASTONISHING DISCOVERY.—The Londonderry Journal of the 27th ult. has a statement of an astonishing discovery which was communicated to the society for the improvement and growth of Flax, held in Belfast. The following extract contains the pith of the matter:

'Mr. Owen referred to a discovery which his friend Dr. Hodges would say was worthy of the deepest consideration of every one present. Having heard some time since that from peat there could be produced ammonia, naptha, soda-ash, oil, spermaceti, and some other substances, he left London for Paris, and called on an eminent chemist there. He had personally repeated the experiment on the subject with a Mr. Reece, also an eminent chemist, produce from 100 lbs. of peat chemical results to the value of £148. It was Mr. Reece who referred him to the Paris chemist, and he (Mr. Owen) produced it to him, and repeated the statement of Mr. Reece, as to what he could do with the peat, the former assured him (Mr. Owen) that the result could do all that he had stated in the document. He then rung a bell, and ordered the results of his experiments to be brought up from his own laboratory, and he (Mr. Owen) saw with his own eyes the sperm candles made; the ammonia, the oil, and the soda-ash produced from peat; and that chemist thought this was the greatest discovery of the age and one which would eventually, convert the greatest curse of Ireland—the bogs, heretofore unprofitable, and the greatest obstacle of improvement—into the greatest blessings, and double the fertility of the soil, to an extent that none could estimate. Well he (Mr. Owen) being a man of business, declined to take his word or all these statements for granted, and, consequently, he got a number of experiments made by Dr. Hodges and his friend, Mr. Reece, which were entirely confirmatory of all the statements made by his friend, Mr. Reece. But still, not to deceive himself or others, he was determined to have an experiment made on a large scale, and had employed the largest apparatus in use for that purpose; and he rejoiced to tell this meeting, that, on Tuesday last, his experiments had been commenced, and the results were beyond all expectation, for everything had succeeded to his utmost wishes. (Mr. Owen here handed to the Chairman a sample of the spermaceti so prepared by him, which was minutely examined by his lordship, and a great number of other gentlemen in the room.) He came here also as a friend of Ireland, &c.'

The Legislature of the State of Illinois has passed the following resolution relating to the New Territories. It passed the Senate on the 8th inst., by a vote of 14 to 11, and the House of Representatives on the 9th, by a vote of 38 to 34:

"*Resolved* by the Senate of the State of Illinois, the House of Representatives concurring, That our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our Representatives requested, to use all honorable means in their power to procure the enactment of such laws by Congress for the government of the countries or territories of the United States, acquired by the treaty of peace, friendship, limits and indemnity, made with the Republic of Mexico, concluded on Feb. 2d, A. D. 1848, as shall contain *the express declaration* that there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in said territories, otherwise than in the punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been duly convicted.

SENATOR DOUGLAS THE *Burean Advocate*, a paper published at Princeton, in Illinois, speaks thus of Mr. Douglass, the Senator from Illinois, who has lately been instructed by the Legislature of his State to vote for the Wilmot proviso:

"Let us see whether he has magnanimity enough to carry out his threat and resign, that our Legislature may have a chance to elect a person who will make it his business to serve the people of Illinois, instead of the Slaveholders—Illinois wants no Senator who leaves his seat in Congress and travels through the South making speeches in favor of Slavery, and insulting the people of the State he was elected to represent, by threatening to resign if required to carry out their wishes and represent their interest. We cannot conceive of a grosser insult to the people of Illinois than the Speech made by Senator Douglass at New Orleans last summer, in which he declared that he would hold his seat as Senator of this State only on condition that he was permitted to represent the interests of the Slaveholders. If Senator Douglass in consequence of having married a Southern wife has acquired a personal interest in the souls and bodies of his fellow-men in that region, which he is more desirous to look after and represent than the free laborers of Illinois, he certainly ought to resign immediately, and without being asked to do so.—Honor, dignity self-respect, all demand it of him.—It was a bold move in Mr. Douglass thus to come front his constituents."

Illinois has presented Mr. Douglass with the opportunity of making his choice—either to obey or resign. His words bid him to do the latter.

FRENCH EMIGRATION TO TEXAS.—The Paris correspondent of the Commercial Advertiser writes on this subject as follows, under date of December, 18th:

"The Communist emigration to Texas, under the auspices of M. Cabet, continues, though the condition of the members of the society who have spent the summer at the new paradise on the Red river is far from encouraging. The enterprise has been conducted with the greatest want of wisdom, and its success is much more doubtful than when it was commenced. M. Cabet left in the steamer on the 16th, to endeavor to retrieve the blunders of his subordinates. At the same time a new detachment of fifty persons has just sailed from Havre, to assist in the foundation of "Icaria." It is to be hoped, for their sake certainly as well as for that of the four hundred persons already there, that the efforts of their chief may be successful.

PASSAGE OF THE VIRGINIA RESOLUTIONS.—We learn from the Daily Richmond Southerner that the Committee's resolutions against the Wilmot Proviso and other kindred measures, passed both Houses of the Legislature of Virginia on Saturday by large majorities. In the House, the vote was for the resolutions 113 to 12 against them.

OREGON.

FROM THE "OREGON" SPECTATOR.

Oregon as it has been Experienced, and as it is.

From all the information we were enabled to obtain before undertaking for this country, we arrived at the conclusion that the lower portion of the country (the portion between the Cascade and Coast Mountains) possessed a rich soil, with a surface generally level and conveniently diversified with prairie and timber; that the middle portion of the country, between the Cascade and Blue Mountains, possessed considerable, though not extraordinary advantages, and that the eastern portion of the country, between the Blue and Rocky Mountains, was of little or no value. We had lived in New England, and in the Western States, and had expected to find Oregon a New-England—increased in the size and grandeur of its mountains, trees, and streams; and increased also in the extent of its valleys, and temperate in its climate. Oregon as a whole, far, very far, surpasses our expectations. The Willamette valley does not contain as much level land as we had expected; but its soil is as rich, and its tillable land much more extensive than we had expected to find it. Nearly all the American settlements in Oregon are confined to the Willamette valley, and that much extolled, and fertile Puget Sound and the head waters of this river remain untaken. The degree of fertility of any soil may be safely estimated from its products. The ordinary forest trees not only grow here in gigantic proportions—the black alder in Oregon grows to a stately tree 40 feet in the logs, from twelve to three feet in diameter. To doubt that such a soil would richly reward the labor of the husbandman, is treason against the Architect of Nature. This valley has received favorable representations from nearly all who have seen it, and spoken or written in relation to it. The land in this valley, for forty miles from its foot, is generally rolling, and covered with dense or scattering timber; above this distance, to the head of the valley, about one hundred and forty miles, the prairie predominates. The lower portion of the valley possesses an extremely rich soil, and is valuable for its timber, fish, and water power; but presents but little natural beauty. The middle and upper portion of the valley is strikingly beautiful and grand, and to its great beauty and grandeur, is added a ready and sensible preparation, by nature, for its settlement and profitable occupation by the weary traveller. The lower portion of this valley is not without its prairies, among the most important of which are the Tualatin plains. These plains are in the form of a half moon, containing at least 40,000 acres of prairie land, extremely rich and beautiful, and are in full view of three snow-capped mountains in the Cascade range.

The country about Puget Sound is extremely beautiful; its soil is gravelly, and produces vegetables in great profusion, but is less suited to the growth of wheat than most parts of Oregon. The country about the mouth of the Columbia river is interspersed with small rich prairies, productive in grains and vegetables, and, from recent explorations, believed to be rich in minerals. This portion of the country is but little settled.

The country about the mouth of the Columbia river has increased its population about one half since the last emigration. Classop plain, situated upon the Pacific, south of the mouth of Columbia river, possesses a gravelly soil, extremely productively of vegetables, but less productive of wheat. These plains, and others similar, lying north of the river, as yet unsettled, have been formed by sand thrown up by the waves of the ocean and enriched by the decay of vegetation. The soil of the timbered land in the vicinity of these plains is similar to the soil of this valley, and undoubtedly will prove to be richly productive of grains and fruits as well as vegetables.

The Clamet, Rogue, and Umpqua valleys (rivers emptying into the Pacific) are as yet unexplored and unknown. The southern road to Oregon crosses these valleys high up, and, from what information we have obtained, we believe that they are second to no portion of Oregon.

We regard the middle portion of Oregon as one of the most valuable portions of the world, probably the most valuable for the purpose of grazing. It is a great pasture field, extending more than 400 miles north and south, and over one hundred east and west, containing more than 4,000,000 acres of land, almost every where covered with a thick carpet of nutritious grass. The climate of the lower portion is better. In the grazing lands of Pennsylvania, New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio are valuable, after the expenditure of great labor and expense to make them so, then that portion of Oregon, supplied as it is with a climate more healthy and mild than any of those States, and thickly spread by nature with the richest grasses, is still more valuable. If wool growing can be made profitable anywhere it must be in this region. It can be made more profitable where they keep healthy and fat throughout the year upon the natural grasses of the country; as they have done and will do in the middle portions of Oregon. Wheat, oats, potatoes, peas, garden vegetables, and fruits, produce well in that portion of the country.—Coal and asphalt are have been discovered there, and water power for manufacturing purposes is abundant.—The middle and eastern portions of Oregon have been grossly misrepresented in the States. We are not aware that grains have been grown in the eastern portion of Oregon, except at Fort Colville and vicinity; yet, from the wild rye, flax, and other products which abound in its valleys we believe that grains, vegetables, and fruits may be fully relied upon with success. The middle portion is also valuable for its grasses, and we venture the assertion, believing that time will show its truth, that it contains more and better grazing lands than appear there, yet picturesque and smiles upon there also. Perhaps the beauty, grandeur and sublimity of the works of nature are nowhere more imposing, and her mysteriousness nowhere more unfathomable than in the eastern portion of Oregon. The mineral springs of Bear river, with its pure invigorating climate, is destined to become the great watering-place of the world.

Oregon is not only valuable for its soil and grasses but also for its climate, timber, fisheries, and for its location on the Pacific. There are many intelligent men in the States, who believe that Oregon has from five to six months of incessant rain, and about as many months of drought in the year.—We have passed a winter, but not a summer in Oregon. It is said here, that last summer was unusually dry. We arrived in the Willamette Valley on the 15th of September, and one month before the commencement of the rainy season; and when we arrived, the soil and vegetation showed less suffering from drought than we have frequently seen in the States. The wheat crop of the last season was unusually small, the cause of which is attributed here, to the lack of the usual spring rains; yet sufficient was produced, to supply the entire population of the country with bread, and seed for sowing—all of which was full and perfect. The last season's crop of oats, potatoes, corn, (so far as it was planted,) vegetables, and fruits, though not heavy, was sufficient for the wants of the country. These facts should satisfy any man that the drought of Oregon is a little terrible in name than in fact. It seldom snows in this valley. In December last, we saw ice about three fourths of an inch thick on dead water in small shallow pools—the result of three cold days and nights. During the greater part of last winter there were no frosts here. That which is denominated the 'rainy season' commences on the 1st of November, and ends on the 1st of March—four months. Between the last day of October, 1847, and the 1st day of March, 1848, in this valley there were seventy six clear days, fourteen days on which it rained, hailed, or snowed all day, and thirty days on which it was neither clear nor stormy all day. Those of our citizens who have passed the winter in the middle portion of Oregon, represent the climate there as beautifully mild and pleasant, with scarcely a rainy day during the winter.

The immense growth and quantity of the timber of Oregon, we believe is generally admitted. The timber is valuable so far as it is needed for home consumption, and so far as it is profitable for exportation. There are eighteen saw mills in operation in Oregon and a greater number nearly ready for operation, and yet lumber is worth $20 per thousand in currency. The Oregon lumber is shipped to California and the Sandwich Islands, and its value for shipment controls its price at home.

That the rivers of Oregon abound with the choicest fish, we believe also generally admitted. Several hundred barrels of salmon are annually packed here; as many thousands of barrels might be packed annually.

The day is not far distant when people residing upon the Atlantic coast will be engaged in the fishing and lumbering business upon the Pacific.—Lumber is fast disappearing on the Atlantic. The fisheries are becoming barren there. Whale fishing is almost exclusively confined to the Pacific.—The present work of whale fishing is performed at a great distance from home. That farmer who goes ten miles from home to work his farm, cannot farm as profitably as he who lives upon his farm. Those who control the whale fishing interest may continue to reside upon the Atlantic, but the operators will reside upon the Pacific to collect and store.

When the collecting and carrying branches of the whale fishing interest shall be separated, that business may be reduced to system and certainty, but not before. That the Pacific will soon become the seat of active and profitable commercial operations none can doubt; the capital of Oregon to be invested in these operations, furnished by Nature, is immense, beyond computation.

THE NATIONAL ARMORIES.—The Secretary of War has transmitted to Congress the following statement of the expense of the national armories and number of arms and appendages manufactured under Government, during the fiscal year just closed, which we find in the Philadelphia Bulletin.

EXPENDITURES.

Springfield—For repairs and improvements, including lands, buildings, dams, &c.....$65,911 29
For materials and workmanship, &c.....161,632 92
Total.....$227,544 21

Harper's Ferry—For repairs, improvements, &c.....75,269 63
For materials, workmanship, &c.....183,354 18
Total.....258,624 18

Grand total expenditure.....$486,078 39

ARMS AND APPENDAGES MANUFACTURED.

Springfield—Muskets, [percussion] 10,817; rifles, [percussion] none; sappers muskets, 252; cavalry musketoons, 4; artillery musketoons, 701; ball screws, 1,894; wipers, 24,273; screw drivers, 22,620; bullet moulds, none; spring vises, 302; odies extra, 2,081; cone wrenches, none; arm chests, 257.

Harper's Ferry—Muskets, [percussion] 11,000; rifles, [percussion] 2,802; sappers muskets, none; cavalry muskets, none; artillery do none; ball screws, 1,810; wipers, 12,664; screw drivers, 13,294; bullet moulds, 913; spring vises, 1,391; cones, extra, 18,882; cone wrenches, 483; arm chests, 624.

LECTURE ON RAILROADS.

In compliance with the request of a number of gentlemen of Pittsburgh, contained in the following correspondence, a Lecture will be delivered by Solomon W. Roberts, Civil Engineer, on the advantages which the construction of Railroads will confer upon the cities of Pittsburgh and Allegheny. It will be delivered at the "Apollo Hall," on Fourth street, on Friday evening, the 26th of January, at 7 o'clock, and all persons who feel an interest in the subject, are invited to attend.

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 22, 1845.

To S. W. ROBERTS, Esq., Civil Engineer, &c.

Dear Sir:—The lively interest now being felt throughout the State, on the subject of connecting the public works of Pennsylvania, (Railroad and Canal) with the great west, has received much of its impulse from your labors. From the developements arising out of the surveys under your direction for the Ohio and Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and from your personal examination of the Western country, in view of the most suitable lines of communication, much light has been shed upon the questions at issue.

These questions are of the highest importance and involve the future prosperity of our city; and learning from the public newspapers that you have recently addressed a numerous and highly intelligent audience in the city of Philadelphia on the subject, we take the liberty of asking from you, a similar exposition of your views, for the information of this community, at such time, as may suit your convenience.

F Lorenz, H Sterling, Bailey, Brown & Co., Carothers, Miller & Co., Caleb Lee, Church, Carothers, & Co., W Coleman, Birbridge, Wilson & Co., John Anderson & Son, Johnston & Stockton, A Jeynes, Geo R White, Wm Larimer, Jr. Thomas Scott, W H Denny, James Gray, G Ledlie, D N White, A W Foster, S Jones, Kramer & Rahm, Jas B Murray, J B Guthrie, Z H Remington. Curling, Robertson & Co., G & J H Shoenberger, H Smyser,

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 23, 1849.

Messrs. F Lorenz, S Jones, Geo R White, W H Denny, Wm Larimer Jr, and others.

Gentlemen:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of yesterday, requesting me to address the citizens of Pittsburgh, on the subject of the railroads which are proposed to concentrate here, and the influence which their construction will have upon the prosperity of your city.

I will give me pleasure to do anything in my power to promote a cause which is so worthy of the best efforts of its friends, and I shall hold myself in readiness to comply with your request.

The interest felt in the subject in Philadelphia was sufficient to attract a very large audience, both of ladies and gentlemen, to the Musical Fund Hall, to hear a lecture upon it. It is a much more interesting theme than many suppose; and, as it is important to every class of the community, no one need think the time wasted which is devoted to its illustration. Very Respectfully, Yours,

SOLOMON W. ROBERTS, Civil Engineer.

SELF-MADE MAN.—"If you are to be an exception" said Mr. Grabbe, to his young friend, "you will be the first in all my observation and experience. You may take the whole population of Maryland, and select from it 50 men who are most distinguished for talents, or any description of public usefulness, and I will answer for it, they are all, every one of them, men who began the world without a dollar. Look into the public records of the nation, and who are they that take the lead there? They are men who made their own fortune—self-made men, who began with nothing. The rule is universal. It pervades our Courts, State, and Federal, from the highest to the lowest. It is true of its professions. It is so every where and at any time since I have known the public men of this State or the nation; and it will be so while our present institutions continue. You must throw a man upon his own resources to bring him out. The struggle which is to result in eminence is too arduous, and must be continued too long, to be encountered and maintained voluntarily, or even as a matter of life and death. He who has fortune to fall back upon will soon slacken from his efforts, and finally retire from the competition. With me it is a question whether it is desirable that a parent should leave his son any property at all. You will have a large fortune, and I am sorry for it, as it will be the spoiling of a promising young lawyer. These are my deliberate sentiments, and I shall be rejoiced to find, in your instance, I shall be mistaken."

Mr. O'REILY has addressed a memorial to Congress complaining of a law passed at the last session, providing for a change in the time for holding Federal Courts in Kentucky, which change he thinks was brought about to embarrass him in the litigation in which he is involved with Kendall and Morse, before the tribunal of Kentucky. He also asked that Judge Monroe, who presides over the U. S. District Court of that State, be impeached and removed from the Federal Bench, for incapacity.

telegraph from Jackson, Mich., that Gen. Cass was on Saturday last, re-elected to his former seat in the U. S. Senate, by a vote of 44 to 40.

JOB PRINTING.

BILL HEADS, CARDS, CIRCULARS, *Manifests, Bills Lading, Contracts, Law Blanks*, HAND BILLS, LABELS, CERTIFICATES, CHECKS, POLICIES, &c. &c.

Printed at the shortest notice, at low prices, at the GAZETTE OFFICE, THIRD STREET.

☞ FIRE FURNITURE.—Our readers are particularly requested to attend the sale of splendid furniture, paintings and valuable library, at the dwelling of R. W. Poindexter, Esq., Allegheny city, at 10 o'clock this morning, by J. D. Davis, Auct.

☞ YOUNG MEN'S MERCANTILE LIBRARY AND MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—The Third Lecture before this Association will be delivered by the RIGHT REV. BISHOP O'CONNOR, on Thursday evening, Jan. 25th, 1849, at Apollo Hall, at 7½ o'clock.

SUBJECT—The influence of Christianity on Slavery

Single Tickets 25 cents, admitting a gentleman and accompanying ladies. To be had at the Book Stores and at the door.

JACOB WEAVER, Jr., DAVID HOLMES, B. A. SAMPSON. } Committee.

COUGHS AND COLDS.—The frequent changes in the weather at this season of the year, invariably bring along with them coughs and colds, which by timely attention are easily cured by simple remedies. SELLERS' IMPERIAL COUGH SYRUP has been in use for the last 13 years, and has gained an enviable reputation for the cure of coughs (not requiring active medical treatment) than any other preparation ever offered to the citizens of Allegheny county. The Imperial Cough Syrup is very pleasant to the taste, and, on this account, is a great favorite with children. The doses are carefully graduated, in the directions, to suit all ages. That this long tried and highly popular cough syrup may be within the reach of all, it is sold at the low price of 25 cents per bottle.

Prepared and sold by B. E. SELLERS, 57 Wood st, Pittsburgh, D. M. Curry, Allegheny, and druggists generally in both cities. oct3—d

☞ A FINE SET OF TEETH FOR 25 CENTS.—Yellow and unhealthy Teeth, after being once or twice cleaned with Jones' Amber Tooth Paste, have the look and color of ivory, and at the same time are innocent and fine, that its daily use is advantageous even to those teeth