THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

PUBLISHED BY WHITE & CO

PITTSBURGH:

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JAN. 31, 1849.

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

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

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

☞ The Pittsburgh Daily Gazette is published Daily, Tri-Weekly, and Weekly.—The Daily is Seven Dollars per annum; the Tri-Weekly is Five Dollars per annum; the Weekly is Two Dollars per annum, *strictly in advance.*

☞ Advertisers are earnestly requested to hand in their favors before 3 P. M., and as early in the day as practicable. Advertisements not inserted for a specified time will invariably be charged until ordered out.

For latest Commercial Intelligence, Domestic, Markets, River, News, Imports, Money Markets, &c., see 3rd page.

See next page for Telegraphic News.

For Local Matters see next page.

Capt. John Herron, Mayor:—

You are requested to call a Public Meeting of the citizens of Pittsburgh, to be held at the old Court House, on Wednesday evening, the 31st, at 7 o'clock, to make suitable arrangements for the reception of Gen'l. Taylor, the President elect, who is expected soon to visit our city on his way to Washington.

T J Bigham,	Your fellow citizens,
Sam'l Rosebaugh,	Geo Parkin,
Henry Woods,	O B Scully,
J G Hussey,	Morgan Robertson,
Wm J Howard,	Thos Bakewell,
Joshua Hanna,	Fred Lorenz,
D N White,	Geo Singer,
Wm K Hart,	C B M Smith,
Geo Fortune,	Alex McClintock,
R McKnight,	N Buckmaster,
E B Todd,	F C Flanegan,
C O Loomis,	Reade Washington,
	A Washington.

In pursuance of the above request, the citizens of Pittsburgh, are respectfully invited to attend a Public Meeting, at the old Court House on Wednesday evening next, at 7 o'clock, for the purpose of making suitable arrangements for the reception of Gen. Taylor. JOHN HERRON, Mayor.

Pittsburgh, Jan. 29, 1849.

We are glad that a movement has at length been set on foot to give the President elect a worthy reception. The probabilities are, that his stay here will be very short, and the arrangements should be well concocted, to make the reception as imposing and as gratifying to the glorious old hero as possible.

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION.

Some of our cotemporaries, our friend of the Harrisburg Telegraph among them, consider the proposed homestead exemption law, as "an incipient attempt at raising an aristocracy to prevail in this country," "in effect nothing else than laws of entail and primogeniture," &c. We are very certain that such at least is not the intention of those who support this measure, or of those with whom it originated, who have as little sympathy or love for "aristocracy" as can well be imagined—The measure proposed has its origin, in fact, in those yearnings for a happier social organization which so deeply affect the masses in Europe, and also a large portion of our own people. The tendency of modern civilization is to accumulation of wealth in few hands, to the creation of a "moneyed in the place of the old feudal" aristocracy. It is with that class who are ardently seeking a remedy for this tendency that the homestead exemption had its origin. We think it will but feebly, if at all, check the evil complained of, but as we see, in other directions much good, and but little harm that can result from it, we are in favor of its adoption.

We are at a loss to conceive how our intelligent friend of the Telegraph could liken the proposed law to "entail and primogeniture." *Entail* renders it impossible for a man to sell his estate.—*Primogeniture* puts the eldest son in possession to the entire exclusion of the rest of the family. These are the essentials of entail and primogeniture. The Homestead Exemption law does not prevent a man from selling his property, if he chooses; does not prevent him from dividing it by will among his children or heirs, and does not hinder them from selling the moment they come into possession, and squandering the proceeds if they so please. With these powers there is but little danger of estates descending to the "third generation," as our friend of the Telegraph seems to apprehend.

The homestead exemption is in fact nothing more than an enlargement of the laws already in operation. The present laws say that a man's bedcow, his tools, and some other things, shall not be forcibly taken away from him. In the same principle and spirit, and more fully to ensure the beneficent intention of the present law, it is proposed to add to it, that neither shall he be forcibly driven from his home—his home, and that of his children. It recognizes in some measure, "the right to live," by securing in some degree, to every man, (as against every one but himself) the means of living.

The Telegraph urges, that a man with a homestead, wishing to go into business, would be unable to borrow money upon it. There is something in this. Though we remember the same argument was used against the abolishment of imprisonment for debt. It was urged that a poor man would be unable to borrow money if his person could not be seized and kept in jail to enforce payment. The spirit of the age, however, sweeps over these small objections, and sternly demands and enforces such ameliorations of the laws by which society is governed, as may with safety be effected. It is possibly true that the facility of borrowing on "bond and mortgage" may be somewhat curtailed; and some cases, of inconvenience may ensue. But this, perhaps, may not, on the whole prove to be the worst feature of the law. It is some measure protects a man, *and his family*, against himself.—It is this fatal facility of "bond and mortgage" that finally drags half the land of a country into the hands of the money lender—the modern "aristocrat." Still the difficulty is not insuperable, if a man is determined to pawn the shelter of his family, and try his fortune in business, he can give a deed to the money lender, borrow his tenant, and buy back his homestead when he is able.—If ever.

The practical effect of this law we do not think would, on the whole, diminish the security of debts, or curtail credit, which is not generally based on the power which the law gives to compel payment, but on the confidence which one party reposes in the character and honesty of the other—on the faith that he will pay if he is able, and on the belief that he will be able. This, and not the power of compulsion which the law gives, is the basis of credit. An honest man with nothing but his homestead, would have, perhaps, more credit than he has now. He cannot, by any misfortune be quite crushed and driven off, and the chance of his ultimately paying are thereby obviously increased.

As to the details of the law—the value which shall be exempt—the liability of the homestead for the debts of the family at the decease of the two heads of it, &c, we cannot with confidence at present speak. All that we desire is that every family which has secured a comfortable homestead shall hold it in undisturbed possession—no man daring to make him afraid. Perhaps a law enacting that *one* house and the ground on which it stands, not exceeding, say fifty acres, in the country, and a quarter or half an acre in the town, shall be exempt, without regard to the money value, would be as good as any.

Verdict in a Costly Case.—In the case of Mary vs. Sisty, for the infringement of a patent for manufacturing railroad car wheels, tried at Boston before the United States Circuit Court, the jury, on Tuesday, returned a verdict for plaintiff assessing the damages at $1,793.75. The Boston Times says:

"Mr. Webster was for the plaintiff, and we are informed that his fee and contingencies, in event of his client being successful, was to be $3,000. Mr. Choate is to receive, it is said, $1,000. The damage and expense will amount to about $36,000, and the value of the patent right is estimated at $100,000. The hearing has lasted nearly a month. We believe there is little doubt but that an appeal to a higher court will follow the decision."

Cure for Cholera.—The Philadelphia Ledger concludes a long article on the subject of the cholera with the following remark:—Our practice here will begin with the first symptom, whether chill, diarrhoea or nausea; and our inside dose would be camphor, red pepper and alcohol, and warm drinks of brandy and water and jelly, and our outside dose, warm covering and friction, in a warm room. We commend friction with flannel, in a warm room. If mustard be not accessible, flour and mustard. If mustard be not accessible, flour and mustard. If neither, then black pepper, or even black, can be substituted. But no opium, no sugar of lead, no calomel, or any other form of mercury."

FIRST SOUTHERN ADDRESS.

The Washington Union, of Sunday, publishes both the Address of Mr. Calhoun, as adopted by a portion of the Southern Delegation in Congress, and the rejected substitute offered by Mr. Rhett, together with the yeas and nays on the various votes taken. The addresses are nearly of equal length, the adopted address being the longest, and occupying over four of the broad columns of the Union. Our columns are so pre-occupied, that we are compelled to give a synopsis of a part of Mr. Calhoun's address, as it was adopted, presenting however in full, all the really important portion.—It is entitled as follows:

"*The Address of the Southern Delegates in Congress to their Constituents.*"

Its opening paragraphs are as follows:

We, whose names are hereunto annexed, address you in discharge of what we believe to be a solemn duty, on the most important subject ever presented for your consideration. We allude to the conflict between the two great sections of the Union, growing out of a difference of feeling and opinion in reference to the relation existing between the two races, the European and African, which inhabit the southern section, and the acts of aggression and encroachment to which it has led.

The conflict commenced not long after the acknowledgment of our independence, and has gradually increased until it has arrayed the great body of the North against the South on this most vital subject. In the progress of this conflict, aggression has followed aggression, and encroachment encroachment, until they have reached a point when a regard for your peace and safety will not permit us to remain longer silent. The object of this address is to give you a clear, correct, but brief account of the whole series of aggressions and encroachments on your rights, with a statement of the dangers to which they expose you. Our object in making it is not to cause excitement, but to put you in full possession of all the facts and circumstances necessary to a full and just conception of a deep seated disease, which threatens great danger to you and the whole body politic. We act on the impression, that in a popular government like ours, a true conception of the actual character and state of a disease is indispensable to effecting a cure.

We have made it a joint address, because we believe that the magnitude of the subject required that it should assume the most impressive and solemn form.

The address then proceeds to give a *history* of the controversy between the North and the South, in reference to Slavery, and a *statement of the grievances*, of which the South complain.

It commences with a history of the settlement of a question at the foundation of the constitution, and states, that prior to 1819, with few exceptions of no great importance, the South had no cause to complain. With that year commenced the agitating debate on the question of admitting Missouri into the Union, which was finally settled by the famous compromise of Mr Clay.

The subject of delivering up runaway slaves, then presses in review, and various judicial authorities are cited to show that the rights of the South have been outraged in this respect. The concluding remarks on this subject are as follows:—

"These are grave and solemn, and admonitory words from a high source. They confirm all for which the South has ever contended, as to the clearness, importance, and fundamental character of this provision, and the disastrous consequences which would inevitably follow from its violation. But in spite of these solemn warnings, the violation then commenced, and which they were intended to rebuke, has been fully and perfectly consummated. The citizens of the South, in their attempt to recover their slaves, now meet, instead of aid and co-operation, resistance in every form; resistance from hostile acts of legislation, intended to baffle and defeat their claims by all sorts of devices, and by interposing every description of impediment—resistance from judges and magistrates—and finally, when all these fail, from mobs, composed of whites and blacks, which, by threats or force rescue the fugitive slave from the possession of his rightful owner. The attempt to recover a slave, if out of the northern States, cannot now be made without the hazard of insult, heavy pecuniary loss, imprisonment, and even of life itself. Already has a worthy citizen of Maryland lost his life in making an attempt to enforce his claim to a fugitive slave under this provision."

The next grievance complained of is the secret combinations which are believed to exist in many of the Northern States, whose object is to entice, decoy, entrap, inveigle, and seduce slaves to escape from their owners, and to pass them secretly and rapidly, by means organized for the purpose, into Canada, where they will be beyond the reach of the provision—and that there has been no measure adopted to punish such indirect violations of the constitution.

The formation of abolition societies, and agitation on the slavery question in the North, is next complained of. "To unite the North in fixed hostility to slavery in the South"—societies and newspapers are everywhere established, debating clubs opened, lecturers employed, pamphlets and other publications, pictures and petitions to Congress resorted to, and directed to that single point, regardless of truth or decency, while the circulation of incendiary publications in the South, the agitation of the subject of abolition in Congress, and the employment of emissaries, are relied on to excite discontent among the slaves." "Agitation so systematic"—the address declares—"would, between independent nations, constitute just cause of remonstrance by the party against which the aggression was directed, and, if not heeded, an appeal to arms for redress."

The Missouri Compromise is then again reverted to, and the compact stated. The Texas annexation, the Mexican War, and the acquisition of the New Territories pass under review. The right of a slaveholder to go to the new territories, with his "property," is argued, and the "measures of an aggressive character," introduced into the present Congress presented. Having thus summed up all the grievances of which the South complain, the Address concludes as follows:

We have now brought to a close a narrative of the series of acts of aggression and encroachment connected with the subject of this address, including those that are consummated and those still in progress. They are numerous, great, and dangerous, and threaten with destruction the greatest and most valuable of all the interests and institutions of the South. Indeed, it may be doubted whether there is a single provision, stipulation, or guaranty of the constitution, intended for the security of the South, that has not been rendered almost nugatory. It may even be made a serious question, whether the encroachments already made, without the aid of any other, would not, if permitted to operate unresisted, end in emancipation, and that at no distant day. But be that as it may, it hardly admits of a doubt that, if the aggressions already commenced in the House, and now in progress, should be consummated, such in the end would certainly be the consequence.

Little, in truth, would be left to be done after we have been excluded from all the Territories, including those to be hereafter acquired; after slavery is abolished in this district and in the numerous places dispersed all over the South, where Congress has the exclusive right of legislation, and after the other measures proposed are consummated. Every outpost and barrier would be carried, and nothing would be left but to finish the work of abolition at pleasure in the States themselves. This District, and all places over which Congress has exclusive power of legislation, would be asylums for fugitive slaves, where, as soon as they placed their feet, they would become, according to the doctrines of our northern assailants, free; unless there should be some positive enactments to prevent it.

Under such a state of things the probability is, that emancipation would soon follow, without any final act to abolish slavery. The depressing effects of such measures on the white race at the South, and the hope they would create in the black of a speedy emancipation, would produce a state of feeling inconsistent with the much longer continuance of the existing relations between the two. But be that as it may, it is certain, if emancipation did not follow, as a matter of course, the final act in the States would not be long delayed. The want of constitutional power would oppose a feeble resistance. The great body of the North is united against our peculiar institution. Many believe it to be sinful, and the residue, with inconsiderable exceptions, believe it to be wrong. Such being the case, it would indicate a very superficial knowledge of human nature, to think that, after sinning at abolition systematically for so many years, and pursuing it with such unscrupulous disregard of law and constitution, the fanatics who have led the way and forced the great body of the North to follow them, would, when the finishing stroke only remained to be given, voluntarily suspend it, or permit any constitutional scruples or consideration of justice to arrest it. To these may be added an aggression, though not yet commenced, long meditated and threatened—to prohibit what the abolitionists call the internal slave trade, meaning thereby the transfer of slaves from one State to another, from whatever motive done, or however effected. Their object would seem to be to render them worthless by crowding them together where they are, and thus hasten the work of emancipation. There is reason for believing that it will soon follow those now in progress, unless, indeed, some decisive step should be taken in the mean time to arrest the whole.

The question then is, will the measures of aggression proposed in the House be adopted? They may not, and probably will not be this session. But when we take into consideration that there is a majority now in favor of one of them, and a strong minority in favor of the other, as far as the sense of the House has been taken; that there will be in all probability a considerable increase in the next Congress of the vote in favor of them, and that it will be largely increased in the next succeeding Congress under the census to be taken next year, if it amounts almost to a certainty that they will be adopted, unless some decisive measure is taken in advance to prevent it.

But, if even these conclusions should prove erroneous—if fanaticism and the love of power should contrary to their nature, for once respect constitutional barriers, or if the calculations of policy should retard the adoption of these measures, or even defeat them altogether, there would be still left one certain way to accomplish their object, if the determination avowed by the North to monopolize all the territories, to the exclusion of the South, should be carried into effect. That of itself would, at no distant day, add to the North a sufficient number of States to give her three-fourths of the whole; when, under the color of an amendment of the constitution, she would emancipate our slaves, however opposed it might be to its true intent.

Thus, under every aspect, the result is certain, if aggression be not promptly and decidedly met. How it is to be met, it is for you to decide.

Such, then, being the case, it would be to insult you to suppose you could hesitate. To destroy the existing relation between the free and servile races at the South would lead to consequences unparalleled in history. They cannot be separated, and cannot live together in peace or harmony, or to their mutual advantage, except in their present relation: Under any other, wretchedness, and misery, and desolation would overspread the whole South. The example of the British West Indies, as blighting as emancipation has proved to them, furnishes a very faint picture of the calamities it would bring on the South. The circumstances under which it would take place with us would be entirely different from those which took place with them, and calculated to lead to far more disastrous results. There, the government of the parent country emancipated slaves in its colonial possessions a government rich and powerful, and actuated by views of policy, (mistaken as they turned out to be,) rather than fanaticism.

It was, besides, disposed to act justly towards the owners, even in the act of emancipating their slaves, and to protect and foster them afterwards. It accordingly appropriated nearly $100,000,000 as a compensation to them for their losses under the act, which sum, although it turned out to be far short of the amount, was thought at that time to be liberal. Since the emancipation, it has kept up a sufficient military and naval force to keep the blacks in awe, and a number of magistrates, and constables, and other civil officers, to keep order in the towns and plantations, and enforce respect to their former owners. To a considerable extent, these have served as a substitute for the police formerly kept on the plantations by the owners and their overseers, and to preserve the social and political superiority of the white race. But, notwithstanding all this, the British West India possessions are ruined, impoverished, miserable, wretched, and destined probably to be abandoned to the black race. Very different would be the circumstances under which emancipation would take place with us. If it ever should be effected, it will be through the agency of the federal government, controlled by the dominant power of the northern States of the confederacy, against the resistance and struggle of the southern.

It can then only be effected by the prostration of the white race, and that would necessarily engender the bitterest feelings of hostility between them and the North. But the reverse would be the case between the blacks of the South and the people of the North. Owing their emancipation to them, they would regard them as friends, guardians, and patrons, and centre accordingly, all their sympathy in them. The people of the North would not fail to reciprocate and favor them, instead of the whites. Under the influence of such feelings, and impelled by fanaticism and love of power, they would not stop at emancipation. Another step would be taken—to raise them to a political and social equality with their former owners, by giving them the right of voting and holding public offices under the federal government. We see the first step toward it in the bill already alluded to—to vest the free blacks and slaves with the right to vote on the question of emancipation in this District. But when once raised to an equality, they would become the fast political associates of the North, acting and voting with them on all questions, and by this political union between them, holding the white race at the South in complete subjection. The blacks and the profligate whites that might unite with them, would become the principal recipients of federal offices and patronage, and would, of course, be raised above the mass of the whites of the South in the political and social scale. We would, in a word, change conditions with them—a degradation greater than has ever yet fallen to the lot of a free and enlightened people, and one from which we could not escape, should emancipation take place, which it certainly will if not prevented by our fleeing from the homes of ourselves and ancestors, and by abandoning our country to our former slaves, to become the permanent abode of disorder, anarchy, poverty, misery, and wretchedness.

With such a prospect before us, the gravest and most solemn question that ever claimed the attention of a people is presented for your consideration. What is to be done to prevent it? It is a question belonging to you to decide. All we can do, is to give you our opinion.

We, then, are of the opinion that the first and indispensable step, without which nothing can be done, and with which everything may be, is to be united among yourselves, on this great and most vital question. The want of union and concert in reference to it has brought the South, the Union, and our system of government to their present perilous condition. Instead of placing it above all others, it has been made subordinate not only to mere questions of policy, but to the prejudices of party ties and cursing of party caucuses. A high as we hold a due respect for these, we hold them subordinate to that and other questions involving our safety and happiness. Until they are so held by the South, the North will not believe that you are in earnest in opposition to their encroachments, and they will continue to follow, one after another, until the work of abolition is finished. To convince them that you are, you must prove by your acts that you hold all other questions subordinate to it. If you become united, and prove yourselves in earnest, the North will be brought to a pause, and to a calculation of consequences; and that may lead to a change of measures and the adoption of a course of policy that may quietly and peaceably terminate this long conflict between the two sections. If it should not, nothing would remain for you but to stand up immovable in defence of rights, involving your all—your property, prosperity, equality, liberty, and safety.

As the assailed, you would stand justified by all laws, human and divine, in repelling a blow so dangerous, without looking to consequences, and to resort to all means necessary for that purpose.—Your assailants, and not you, would be responsible for consequences.

Entertaining these opinions, we earnestly entreat you *to be united*, and that purpose adopt all necessary measures. Beyond this, we think it would not be proper to go at present.

We hope, if you should unite with anything like unanimity, it may of itself apply a remedy to this deep seated and dangerous disease; but, if such should not be the case, the time will have come for you to decide what course to adopt.

Mr Berrien's substitute is addressed "*to the people of the United States.*" It is composed of nearly the same matter as Mr Calhoun's, but presented in milder and more conciliating language. The same historical statements and grievances are presented, and the whole people are appealed to by their patriotism and love of the Union, to exercise the restraining influence which they alone possess, to give harmony to our counsels, and prosperity to our country.'

This address was rejected—yeas 27, nays 34.

Mr Calhoun's address was adopted by the following vote:—

Those who voted in the affirmative are—

Messrs Mason, Hunter, Butler, Calhoun, Turney, Downs, Davis, Foote, Pitzpatrick, Borland, Schastian, Westcott, Yulee, Atkinson, Bayly, Bedinger, Dawson, Beale, W G Brown, Meade, R A Thompson, Daniel, Venable, Burt, Holmes, Rhett, Simpson, Woodward, Wallace, Iverson, Lumpkin, Bowdon, Gayle, Harris, Inge, Featherston, J. Thompson, La Sere, Morse, R W Johnson, Pillsbury, and Stanton—42.

Those who voted in the negative are—

Messrs Berrien, Metcalf, Underwood, Johnson of Louisiana, Rusk, S Houston, Pendleton, Preston, Clingman, Toombs, Stephens, Hillard, Morehead, Cooke, Cabell, Bowman, and Chapman—17.

No names are appended to the address as given in the Union—it being understood that it will be published in an official poem, when all the names possible are procured.

Such is the conclusion of an effort on the part of Mr. Calhoun, and some few ultra Southern factionists, to widen—not to heal—the breach which exists between the North and the South on the subject of slavery. The address is an able one—probably none better could have been written on that side of the question—but it will not endure the dissecting knife of truth. It may produce a momentary excitement in the South, and then will be heard of no more, or only heard of to cover its authors with public odium. Our faith is strong that the good sense of the people of the South will reject all such revolutionary schemes. Their attachment to the Union cannot be questioned, and the safety of their slave property is so intimately connected with its perpetuity, that it were madness for them to attempt its dissolution. This they are aware of, and if there were no other motive—and there are thousands better—they would resist Mr Calhoun's wild schemes.

The Right to Labor.—The French are amusing themselves with a new comic piece called "*La Propriete c'est le vol*" intended as a satire on Socialism generally, and more particularly on that phase of it held up by Mr. Proudhon, who has declared that all "property is theft." Monsieur and Madame Boumchon are the principal characters in it, and the burlesque of the piece is in the disagreeable and ludicrous situations they are placed by a decree of government recognizing the right to labor. Servants discharged from offices refuse to go. In virtue of the former decree, hundreds of *citoyens*, of all trades and callings, flock to his house, and, without notice or leave, at once enter upon the exercise of their respective professions. Upholsterers' journeymen tear down the paper from his walls, which were already in good condition. Sisters tear off the roof, carpenters break his doors, porters insist upon removing his furniture to a new house, *porteurs d'eau* inundate his bed room with torrents of water, and finding no other vessel to receive the fluid, pour it into his boots and finally an unemployed dentist insists upon drawing a tooth. The piece is said to have set all Paris laughing for the first time since the last revolution.

The Homestead Exemption.—The Governor of Missouri, comes out in favor of this measure. We know of no new measure, which has been received with more general favor in the Western country than this law. The object is so beneficial to general society, as to the family, for by securing a home, it will encourage the obtaining homes, and prevent persons in adverse circumstances from being thrown on the community.—*Cin. Atlas.*

FROM WASHINGTON.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

Washington, Jan. 27, 1849.

There is no longer a doubt of the election of General Cass to the Senate. The author of the Nicholson Letter, and the late Democratic candidate for the Presidency, is reduced so low as to eagerly seek and greedily accept a seat, the price being the surrender of a Senator's seat, bound down by instructions and probably by pledges, to adopt a course of conduct, in reference to Slavery—the great question of the day—the very reverse of that he has always professed himself in favor of. Cass is an able man, though he possesses not an intellect of the first order. But he must be governed by low motives and an abject spirit. Two years ago, he was an earnest advocate of the Proviso, but, pretending to discover, and most falsely too, that a change was going on in the public mind against that great measure of policy, he changed his mind, and attempted to curry favor with his haughty and contemptuous masters, by writing the Nicholson letter. On the doctrines of that letter he put himself upon the country, and verdict was given against him by a majority such as had never been heard of in our political history. Seeing his opinions thus condemned, and his principles repudiated by the country, and by his own party, a decent self respect should have taught him to withdraw quietly and gracefully from public life until at least the great question upon which he had been rejected, had passed out of the politics of the country. But his own State, as if thoroughly appreciating his character, and determined to 'rid herself of his domination, passed Wilmot Proviso Resolutions, instructing her Senators to use all honorable endeavors to pass it. About the time of the reporting of these resolutions, and the beginning of the canvassing for Senator, Cass wrote to his friends in Washington that the game was up, and that he should not go back to the Senate, as he must be hampered by the instructions. But, finished as he was in lessons of intrigue at the court of his friend—while in power and prosperity—Louis Philippe, he discovered a crevice in the organization of the opposition, and by dexterous management, and upon the slight consideration of the sacrifice of his honor, he procured his return to a seat, which he cannot retain one week without betraying his State or violating his oath, to support, to the best of his judgment, the Constitution.

His election has excited a general indignation among the Democrats of both divisions. The Barnburners never had any other feeling than contempt for him: the Hunkers are disgusted at his shameless repudiation of principles upon which they supported him through the late canvass. He has come back to plot and manœuvre for the Presidency. He will hold his seat only till March, 1851. In the mean time, his Hunker adherents in Michigan will be left in a miserable minority of the party proper, and if necessary to their utter discomfiture, the Barnburners will, at the next election, join the Whigs, and provide for the election of an honest man as his successor.

There is nothing new in regard to the Southern Address. I have heard that between thirty and forty Democrats and two Whigs have been induced to sign it. At least half of these have yielded to importunities to that which was not commended to their consciences by its own worthiness. There are a few Southern men who, even in Congress, would do any thing to spite the "damned Yankees." One of these is Mr. Iverson, of Georgia, who said in the caucus last Monday night—"Let us now divide—let us draw the line—let us close our ports against the northern ships, and throw them open to those of Europe, and we shall have these Yankee peddlers down upon their marrow bones, begging for admission into our Union, on our own terms, in six months." This doughty Mr. Iverson must be a descendant of the Tartar chief who, after he had feasted on a cup of mare's milk and a date, sent out his slave to proclaim at the door of his tent that the other potentates of the earth had his permission to go to their dinners. But this feeling is confined to a few, who, like this Iverson, are consumed with envy and malice in contemplating the advantages which superior industry, energy, and economy, confer upon the North over the strictly planting States. I suppose the address will appear in the Union some of these mornings—but it will fall upon the public ear with but little more effect than one of Father Ritchie's leaden, three column editorials, about Virginia and the compromises of the constitution, and other approved phrases which the venerable organist rolls off the end of his tongue, or glibly as a parrot clatters 'pretty poll.'

The House is making good progress with the appropriation bills, and the private calendar. Next week is assigned to both Houses for the commencement of the regular debate upon the territorial bills. Were this a long session, two months probably would be a short allowance for that debate; but only five weeks remain of this, and in that time must be perfected all the ordinary legislation of the year, and several important measures of casual legislation, as the bill for the reduction of the postage, which the general voice of the country loudly demands. The steam, therefore, must be blown off in two weeks, at most.

I do not yet despair of seeing territorial bills, with the Wilmot Proviso attached, pass both Houses, and sent to the President for his signature. Perhaps it is almost too much to hope that, after what he has written, he will sign such bills. But he gave up the whole principle, in signing the Oregon bill; and as to what he has said or intimated about vetoing a bill applying it to territory south of thirty six, thirty, that amounts to nothing. He forfeited his word, when pledged to Benton, Dix, and Blair, in favor of freedom; how can the slave holders more securely trust him? No man not set of men can trust him further than you would jacitate a bull by the candal extremity.

We have beautiful weather and gay times in the city. It is said that Mrs. Polk will give a valedictory festival, which will eclipse all similar displays that have ever taken place at the White House.—But, *quien sabe?*

The Vice President did not appoint the Senators to form the select committee on Douglass' bill and amendments, that were named by me. You will doubtless have made the requisite correction.

Colonel Duncan has been confirmed Inspector General, without opposition. Junius.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

Harrisburg Jan. 26.

SENATE.

The speaker presented the annual report of the Washington Coal Company. Also, a memorial from the members of the bar of Allegheny county, asking that the salaries of the judges of the Supreme Court may be increased.

Petitions presented.—By Messrs. Hugus, Overfield and Ives, in favor of a new county to be called Lawrence.

By Mr. Matthias, from clergymen of Mansyunk, asking that the hours of labor by operatives employed in manufactories may be limited to ten hours per day.

By Mr. Small, from female operatives employed in manufactories at Manayunk, asking for the repeal of the proviso of the Ten Hour Law.

Mr. King, from the committee on Finance, to which was referred the bill to provide for the payment of certain laborers on the public works, and the bill to pay the same, reported the same, with an amendment.

The bill regulating proceedings in courts of justice, was taken up and passed.

The bill creating the new county of Madison was taken up, and the question recurring on the amendment offered by Mr. Foulger, it was disagreed to, and the bill passed a second reading—yeas 19, nays 13.

The bill relative to mortgages destroyed, lost or mislaid, was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE.

The Speaker laid before the house the 29th Annual Report of the Pennsylvania Bible Society.

On motion of Mr. Geo. T. Thorne, the use of the Hall was granted to George Copway for the purpose of delivering a lecture in relation to the education and civilization of the North American Indians.

Mr. Cooper (Ways and Means) reported a bill providing for the ordinary expenses of the government, for repairs on the State Canals and Railroads, and for the payment of debts due for work done thereon.

The Select Committee on the subject reported a bill for Mahoning county, out of parts of Indiana, Clearfield and Jefferson.

Mr. R. E. Smith, a supplement to the law relative to the organization of Courts of Justice.

Mr. Swartswelder, a joint resolution providing for the opening of the accounts of Patrick McKenna, auctioneer.

Mr. Evans, of Chester, a bill to extend the charter of the Bank of Chester county.

Mr. Sharp a bill granting a certain lot of ground in the Borough of Beaver.

Mr. Marx, a bill to incorporate the Allentown Bank.

The bill providing for the completion of the North Branch Canal, passed Committee of the Whole, with amendments.

The resolution relating to the assigned bills in the hands of the Governor, came up in order, when Mr. Schoonover concluded his remarks. Mr. Ball followed, and after he had concluded, Mr. Herring moved the previous question, which was carried—yeas 59, nays 35.

Mr. Little moved to reconsider the vote which was lost—yeas 48 nays 49.

The question was then taken on Mr. Ball's substitute, and it was lost—yeas 48, nays 49.

The question was next taken on Mr. Little's amendment and it was agreed to—yeas 54, nays 49.

PLANK ROADS.

The following interesting communication, which we take from the National Era, is worthy of the attention of all who desire good and cheap roads. The writer lives in New York.

A new and rather novel improvement in constructing roads is rapidly developing the resources of the agricultural districts in our State, bringing into play the industry of our farmers, and giving them advantages for travel little short of railroads, and in a manner particularly adapted to their accommodation, and at a comparatively small rate of expense.

Plank roads can be made, as a general rule, for about the year's interest of a well-made railroad.

About one hundred companies have already formed, or are about being formed, to construct these roads in various parts of the State of New York. The time is coming when most of the roads of the State and Union, where there is any considerable amount of travel, and timber reasonable, will be planked. Thus far, every plank road work in this State has fully equalled, if not exceeded, the expectation of their projectors. The fact that a pair of horses will walk ease, and walk increased speed, carry double the weight on a plank road that they can on the best common roads, without any other consideration, settles their value.

When the roads are bad, as they usually are spring and fall, four times the weight can be taken on common roads at such seasons that can be taken on plank roads. The farmer can go to market at all times when he cannot work his farm on account of weather or from other causes. And when other roads are impassable, he can trot off with his pair of horses and two tons weight, and return, (living some fifteen or twenty miles distant from market) the same day; while with bad roads, taking the same weight, would require several days, besides great wear and tear of horses and wagons and harness—in fact, leaving actually little return, after deducting expenses. This is no fanciful calculation—it has been fully proved. This improvement will bring up the value of farms within reach of markets, which have been greatly depressed by the low price of land at the West. The convenience of getting the produce of the farm to market will enable the farmer of the East better to compete with the farmer of the West, although the cost of land is so much less at the West. The expense of distant transportation will serve to confirm the value of farms near the great markets.

Our new States, until they have more money, should go to work, constructing plank roads; they will for a long time answer the purpose of railroads, except on the great and central thoroughfares. Michigan should be wide awake on the subject.

The press cannot be too diligent in calling public attention to these roads. At the South, where timber is cheap, and the common roads execrable, they will be of great value; indeed, in every part of our Union they can be constructed to great advantage, giving employment to the laboring classes, increased value to real estate, and a good investment to stockholders. It is an improvement beneficial to all classes. Some fear has been expressed that the timber of the country would be exhausted by the rage for plank roads; but such will not be the case. These roads will be constructed so as to lead to those districts where the timber is now ready, but of little or no value to any one, or the land on which it grows, on account of the expense of getting it to markets.

These plank roads are about to open sources of wealth to the Northern part of this State, of more value to the public than the gold mines of California. It is found that very little grading is required—one foot rise in from twelve to sixteen can easily be overcome with a pair of horses, with two, ten, or more tons weight, advantage would be taken, and teams loaded with four or five tons would pass, without any additional tolls, carrying a weight too heavy for such a road. Legislation will be required to regulate the weight of loads, so as to prevent imposition.

When these roads were first thought of, it was supposed they would not answer, on account of the perishable nature of the material used. But it has now been discovered that these roads wear out before they decay; and that, while wearing out, the income is so great, they will afford ten per cent. to the stockholders, (the maximum rate allowed by laws of the State of New York,) and from 10 to 20 per cent. surplus, to keep the road in repair, and relay it when necessary.

These roads will also give a good footwalk at all seasons of the year, free of cost, and save the trouble of much horse harnessing for neighborhood visiting and church going, as well as giving the children easy access to districts schools, the pride of our State.

These roads are also to be a source of additional income to the great central lines of railroads and canals already constructed. Plank roads diverging from each side of them, extending through fertile valleys up to our mountain regions, will bring all the resources of our State into active employing every idle hand, and every idle dollar—tens of thousands of dollars that are now locked up in our agricultural districts, one hundred here, five hundred there, doing nothing for the best of a favorable investment. Plank roads, set forth such means, and set it at work for the public good, and at the same time give a fair return to interest.

D.

For the Pittsburgh Gazette.

REFORMS.

The Editor of the American remarked in his paper on last Saturday, that reforms, like other bodies, move in a circle, and in the course of time, come round to the place they started from. This is one of Hume's only sophistries—one of those infidelic sentiments which he was wont to deal in through his historical writings, for the purpose of weakening Christianity and inducing the wavering to fear that the holy institution would again be overthrown in coming time. Hume was not as bold a reveller as the notorious Tom Paine; yet, he was a dangerous man, and his writings have ever had a tendency to open again youthful devotion, and open a way to the darkest chambers of skeptical illusion. When a writer attacks religion and its precious book, in a daring manner, the young can see his object at a glance, and guard against his influence; but when he steals along like a snake in the grass, he may wind himself round the victim before he is aware, and inflict that sting in the moral nature, which is as deadly as the viper's fang. We do not wish to see any of Hume's sentiments advanced in this age of the world. The common sense of man is against them; and the wide tract which the champions of infidelic error, already redeemed from infidelic error, shows that the return is glorious, and that it will advance until it reaches from the rivers to the ends of the habitable earth. Observer No. 2.

National Convention.—There is to be a National Convention held at Baltimore on Tuesday, the 6th of March, 1849—not of politicians, but of capitalists, inventors, and amateurs of ingenuity and skill in the productive arts. The objects of holding the convention are:

1. To examine discoveries, new inventions, plans and compositions of matter, &c.

2. To furnish true and original inventors, when required with advice, the means of sustenance, materials, &c.

3. To purchase a library for the use of examiners and inventors, &c.

4. To establish a room for the exhibition of models, plans, drawings, &c.

5. To give counsel and advice (for a fee,) to those who may desire information about machines, &c.

6. The establishment of a warehouse of machines, implements, manufactures, &c.

7. The establishment of workshops for the instruction of apprentices, &c.

8. The establishment of a school for the instructing of mechanics, scholars, &c.

This brief summary will give an idea of the objects proposed to be accomplished by the convention.

The Voice of North Carolina.—In the House of Commons of the State of North Carolina, on the 20th instant, when certain resolutions concerning the agitation of the slavery question were under consideration, the following resolution was moved, by way of amendment, by the Hon Edward Stanly.

Resolved. That we believe the people of North Carolina, of all parties, are devotedly attached to the union of the United States; that they regard it as a main pillar in the edifice of real independence; the support of tranquillity at home, or peace abroad; of safety; of prosperity; and of that very liberty; they so highly prize; that they cherish a cordial, habitual and immovable attachment to it, and that they watch for its preservation with jealous anxiety; that they believe it is the duty of their public servants to discountenance whatever may suggest even a suspicion that it can in any event be abandoned, and to "repel indignantly every attempt to alienate any portion of our country from the rest, or to enfeeble the sacred ties which now bind together the various parts."

This resolution, we are happy to say, passed by yeas 56 nays 31.

Geo. Taylor and the Methodists.—The Louisiana Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, was recently held at Baton Rouge. The proceedings were of more than usual interest, partly rendered so by a visit to the conference, of General Taylor, who subsequently dined with the presiding Bishop, Dr. Paine, and a considerable number of the ministers members of the conference. A letter to the Southern Christain Advocate says: "The President elect was exceedingly communicative and interesting, altogether such as I had expected to find him."

A Yankee California Speculation.—The Worcester Ægis gives the following crumb of comfort to the gold diggers:

"A load of 300 stools manufactured in Sterling, in this county, passed through our streets last week, boxed up for California. They are designed for seats for diggers. They are worth here about fifty cents, but may be considered as good for $10 to $25 each in El Dorado."

Government of Pennsylvania.

William F. Joh