THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE,
PUBLISHED BY WRIGHT & CO.
PITTSBURGH, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1849.

FROM WASHINGTON.

(Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29, 1849.

Since my last of Saturday, the address to the southern Caucus has been published. But oh, what a falling off is there in the performance from the promise of the manifesto. The Union is the fortunate journal which has secured the privilege of laying this important paper before the world; and accordingly, yesterday, it ushered the town by bringing out two addresses; that of Mr Berrien and of Mr Calhoun. The man call them "rejected addresses," for one of them is known to have been republished by the conspirators, and neither of them is signed. This is a most remarkable fact, which the Union makes no attempt to explain. It is well known, that for a whole week its authors have been shinning round with the paper after signatures, like a Wall street broker after endorsers on settlement day, and here is the puny result. It is thrown upon the world without the authority of a single name. The business has been a shocking failure; never did a mountain in labor bring forth a more ridiculous mouse. The conspirators feel it deeply. Mr Richie and his patrons, Messrs Calhoun, Hayne, Polk & Co. feel quite knocked up about the affair. It was reported that forty signatures had been obtained. It appears that not one of them who voted for it in secret cared to avow it openly.

Of course, I need not tell your readers what this address contains, or what it does not. If you think it worth while, you will lay parts or the whole of it before them. I think, though, I am conscious of entertaining the deepest contempt and reprobation of their proceedings, that I am capable of judging candidly of the results of their operations. The addresses are both well written, and Mr Berrien, though hardly so forcible in style, has more of character than the other, but neither of them are able documents. Both of them are calculated to hasten the period when emancipation will become a realities necessity to the South. This is the very thing most deprecated in both of them; therefore, they must be called feeble and not able papers. Could we forget the intentions which actuated Mr Calhoun and his coadjutors in this business, we should simply smile at the impotency of all their machinations against the Union.

As it is, let all pass and be forgotten. The little three-cornered empire which was to have been reared for John Cataline, by a line drawn from the northern edge of Chanflebum's district or Charleston township, to Mobile Bay, cutting off a few rice and cotton fields and alligator pastures, from the United States, will be no more heard of in our day. You will perceive that the character of the addresses, and the proceedings had been sketched with all desirable accuracy in my letters.

Mr Dodge's bill this morning brought in the report of the select committee, appointed to consider all bills and amendments relative to the governments of the new territories. The plan reported seems to be a sort of compromise. It provides, in brief, for the admission of Upper California as a State, and prescribes the following boundaries:—On the north, the forty-second parallel from the north-east corner of the Great Salt Lake, to the Pacific, the distance being about 450 miles; from the intersection of that parallel with the ocean, the sea coast, to latitude 34 deg. 40 min.; thence due east, about sixty miles; thence along the summit of a range of hills, and the Wasatch Mountains, in a general northeast direction, to the place of beginning. These limits include the whole of the gold region on the Pacific, west of the Sierra Nevada, and the great basin, as described by Fremont. Its area may be estimated at 150,000 square miles. It includes the Great Mormon Settlement on Bear River.

By the next section, it is provided that New Mexico shall come into the Union on the same footing as the former when it shall have sufficient population. But this assumes to settle the dispute which Texas has raised about the boundary of New Mexico, wholly in her favor, by establishing the Rocky Mountains and the State of Texas, as the Eastern limits of the province. This, of course, turns over to Texas the whole of the territory belonging to New Mexico, east of the Rio Grande, a fertile country containing perhaps one hundred thousand inhabitants, and all the habitable part of the province except that which lies on the Pacific. This is neither more nor less than a proposition to extend the northern boundary of Texas, 50 forty degrees, which no one is going to agree to in these days.

Col. Benton is said to be going to California in the spring, with Mrs. Fremont, who goes to join her husband in that Dorada Nuemo. Probably the rovers have grown out of the fact that the Colonel has announced his intention of accompanying his daughter as far on her way as the Isthmus.

There is a foolish report that Colonel Jefferson is about to take charge of the war department, in place of Governor Marcy, who will retire for some inexplained reason, before Mr Polk takes to the shades; of course it is idle gossip. JUNIUS.

ARCHITECTURAL IMPROVEMENT IN PHILADELPHIA.—The monotonous sameness and Quaker like plainness of dwellings and public buildings, in Philadelphia, has often been noted, and is almost proverbial. An improvement is going on, which we hope Pittsburgh, which has hitherto copied after her example, will imitate. The BULLETIN, noticing the growth of that city, says:

"The improvement in the architectural beauty of private dwellings is indeed very remarkable. A few years ago, the houses of Philadelphia were all built upon the same pattern, so that the city presented an appearance of painful monotony. Nothing should be more beautiful than the effect of neighboring streets, provided the uniformity was relieved, in a measure, by some variety of architectural design in the houses; but when we see squares after square of plain brick dwellings, each as like the other as one new coined penny is like its fellow, the effect becomes tiresome. But this eyesore, we are glad to see, is being removed, at least partially. There are scores of dwellings, with no great pretension to taste, being erected, or already built, in different parts of the city and suburbs, which are very beautiful. The new churches, too, show a great improvement on the old ones. Formerly, a church in Philadelphia looked like a big brick box, pierced with windows; now, very many are elegant, and several costly ones, that would serve for models, have been erected. This advance in taste characterize nearly all sects. The Presbyterians have put up a beautiful Gothic church, built of stone, on Green Hill; and the Episcopalians are now erecting one, in Locust above Schuylkill Seventh street, which, when finished, will be the most costly, as well as correct, specimen of that order in the city.

We notice these evidences of increasing taste and wealth with pleasure. We may have occasion to notice further improvements, in our editorial walks about town."

THE KENTUCKY AND SCHUYLKILL BANK CASE.—In relation to the notification given by the Supreme Court judges of Pennsylvania, on Saturday after private consultation, to the parties interested in the case, to the effect that their decision would be against the Schuylkill bank, the Philadelphia Ledger says:

"The judges thought it their duty, in order to put a stop to speculation and protect the citizens, to announce in advance that the judgment of the court below (the Common Pleas) would be affirmed.

A rumor of the matter got upon 'Change, in the afternoon near three o'clock, and occasioned an intense excitement. In the morning, shares of the Schuylkill Bank sold at $5.75—after the rumor got into circulation, one hundred shares are reported have been sold at $3.

This decision will sweep away the entire assets of the Schuylkill Bank, now amounting to $430,000, and which are in the hand of receivers appointed to hold the funds when the Schuylkill Bank appealed from the decree of the Court of Common Pleas. The whole claim of the Kentucky Bank was for $1,245,520, and it had assumed the spurious stock to that amount. It will therefore, after obtaining the assets of the Schuylkill Bank, lose over $800,000. The formal opinion of the Court will be delivered in the course of a week or two, and judgment then be entered in favor of the Kentucky Bank. To Philadelphians this matter is very important—the stock of the Schuylkill Bank was mostly owned here, and this decision will sweep away the last hope of many."

GENERAL TAYLOR'S MOVEMENTS.—The Philadelphia American says:—

"A well-informed friend at New Orleans writes us that Gen. Taylor was expected to leave Baton Rouge on the 25th instant, on his plantation near Vicksburg. It is his intention to remain in the neighborhood until the 25 of February, when a steamer, provided by the citizens of Louisville, is to convey him up the river. He does not purpose to make any formal visits to intermediate places until he reaches the Cumberland to Nashville; and on his return proceeds to Louisville, and thence to Frankfort, where he will meet Gov. Crittenden—from Frankfort he will go to Cincinnati, and thence directly to Washington, by way of Wheeling and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, reaching his destination about the 15th of March. Gen. Taylor will be accompanied by several personal friends."

GOVERNOR CRITTENDEN is now in New-York city, he expects to visit Albany, at the grand Taylor festival, and to Washington, without now visiting Frankfort. Some time following, of course, he will visit the seat of Government.

The St. Louis New Era denies that any such political obstacles to General Taylor's election to the Senate from Illinois, and that he is not prepared to prove his eligibility.

Report of the Superintendent of Common Schools.

We learn from the report of the Superintendent of Common Schools, just submitted to the Legislature, that the operation of the school system during the year ending June 1st, 1848, was highly gratifying. The whole number of districts in the State is 1,596—1,102 of which have reported. The whole number of schools was 7,845, and scholars 197,934 males, and 162,621 females, with 6,065 male, and 3,031 female teachers. The average number of scholars in each school was 44—salary of male teachers, $17,37, per month, and females $10,65; average number of months taught 4,24½, and the cost of teaching each scholar per month, 4⅝ cents. The amount of tax levied for school purposes was $505,696 51, and the amount of the State appropriations $193,035 75. The cost of new school houses, repairing, &c. during the year was $96,536. It appears from this statement that during the year there has been an increase of 57 in the number of districts; 525 in the number of schools, 422 in the number of teachers; 28,638 in the number of scholars, and of $71,968 in the amount of tax levied for school purposes. This is truly a very gratifying exhibit, yet much, very much, remains to be done to perfect the system, and give to it that extended usefulness, which is demanded by the very highest considerations of public policy; indeed the superintendent calls attention to many of these defects, and presents the whole subject before the Legislature and the people, in its very strongest light, and in a manner which must claim attention.

The short time which the schools are kept open—averaging less than five months—he considers an evil of no trifling character, and which should if possible, be speedily remedied, deeming that the schools, to be useful, should be kept open at least ten months in the year, for where they are open only for so short a time—some less than three months—the attention of scholars is scarcely fixed upon their studies before their season of seven months' recreation again begins, the schools are more crowded than they otherwise would be, and it moreover places an obstacle in the way of the employment of competent teachers, as those adequate to the task of instruction, and willing to adopt it as an employment, will not be willing to engage for so small a portion of the year, but will forsake the country school, and find refuge from a system that denies a maintenance, in towns and villages where better terms are obtained. He also calls attention to the salaries of teachers; for as $17,37 for male teachers, and $10,65 for females, merely mark the average, they afford no just view of the salaries paid, inasmuch as in many districts the salaries rise above a medium, while in a large majority of the townships they fall below it. The reports to the department, indeed, afford evidence that in many of the districts, not more than $6 per month are paid to females, and $12 to males. Such a system is not only highly defective, but cannot continue unless a change is effected in this important particular.

There are many other defects discernable in the practical operation of the system, which, though of minor importance, require legislative interference; and prominent among these he regards the manner of raising taxes in the districts, where in some cases, the number of taxables is less than twenty, and in some, as low as nine and seven, so that a very few who may be interested in the school or the directors, have the power to decide against raising the additional tax, and thus close the school altogether. It is suggested that these district meetings, for the purpose of obtaining authority to raise the additional tax, are not the best mode, but that the directors should have the authority of law to raise such an amount of tax, as in the exercise of a sound discretion, would be adequate to school purposes.

He recommends small districts also, as less expensive to the tax-payer than large ones, and suggests that as authority has been given the directors to refuse admission into the schools of children under the age of five years, they should also have power to refuse admission to persons over a certain age, as instances are not rare of adults over the age of 21, claiming the privilege of admission, and occupying the time and attention of the teacher in the higher branches of learning.—*Phila. News.*

AN AFRICAN WAR.—The Liberia Herald gives an interesting account of a late war between some of the African tribes.

A populous native town, in the vicinity of Bo Porah, on the interior boundary of the Golah country, called Boolah-Jah, (Boolah's town) was suddenly and unexpectedly attacked by a large force of Mendians, whose country lies to the N. E. of Gallanas. The town was a walled town, and had just been rebuilt, enlarged, and surrounded by a wall twenty feet high. The wall had just been completed, and the scaffolding around the outside had not been taken down. After a short resistance, the besiegers, by means of the scaffolding, scaled the walls, and carried the town. Having secured the victory, they at once commenced the work of destruction and death, and fifty victims fell under the battle axe before they paused in their sanguinary work.

Boolah, the king of the town, happened to be absent with his principal men. As soon as the news reached him, he founded an alliance with the Kondah and Madingo population [who are among the trafficking tribes, and who looked upon this attack of the Mendians as a general injury,] and proceeded to beseige the besiegers and be revenged upon them. A powerful force thus collected, marched upon the town, advancing upon all sides, while the Mendians, with closed gates, were rioting over their triumph in the midst of fancied security.—Overwhelmed at the sudden and unexpected appearance of the allied powers, the Mendians remained quiet for some weeks, knowing that an attempt at parley would be ineffectual, and that resistance would be vain. The besiegers obtained rockets at Monrovia, with instructions for using them, and many were thrown into the town.

The besieged, however, had taken the precaution to uncover the houses and divest them of every thing which could be ignited. The rockets, therefore, fell harmless to the ground. The Mendians, meanwhile, contrived to send to their country for reinforcements, which came, but were met, and after a hard fight driven back. The besieged were thus kept up till the stock of provisions in the town was exhausted. The besieged attempted to abandon the town, and if possible escape by cutting their way through the enemy's line—but they were driven back with desperate bravery.—The attempt was twice repeated with similar results, and the lines of circumvallation were drawn closer and closer.

After some weeks, famine made its appearance; but still the sullen Mendians refused to open the gates and capitulate. Deaths by starvation occurred till the town was covered with dead bodies, and the living were reduced to the most loathsome misery. Finally, the fever, generated from putrid and unburied bodies, produced a pestilence, and starved and debilitated living bodies were mingled with the rotten dead, in promiscuous heaps. This pestilence conquered the stiphorn Mendians—"*Diefire be Debil,*" they said and they opened the gates and yielded themselves to their fate—which of course was instant massacre.

The town where this remarkable affair took place occupied an important position. It stood in the great thoroughfare of the country, on a confluence of many *paths*, which diverged thence to all parts of the interior. Consquently there was a total cessation of trade from the region of the interior to that. The effects were severely felt at Monrovia; and the answer of the natives to every inquiry "why no trade come," was "*war done stop all dem parth.*"—*Bost. Traveller.*

HONEYSTEAD EXEMPTION IN NEW YORK.—A very able debate on this subject is going on in the Senate of New York, by which much information is elicited. Among the Whig papers which have lately taken ground in favor of this measure, is the *Buffalo Commercial Advertiser*, a paper as far removed from radicalism as any in the country. That paper says:

For our own part we are clear in the belief that we should abolish all exemption, and restore imprisonment for debt, or go on to the extent proposed of allowing to each man a homestead that shall be inviolate by process of law. As the law now is, though a man cannot be imprisoned for debt, he may offer unlimited and which he is honestly unable to pay, and though a certain amount of personal property is exempt from execution, practically such exemption is of little worth in securing as was intended to every family, the comforts of a home. Its effects on the whole, we are inclined to think, is vicious. It holds out no premium to good conduct, industry and frugality. It is true a man may be able to get a quantity of household furniture to gether and hold it as his own, but he is not able to hold a house. He hires one, therefore, and becomes careless and indifferent. Give him the prospect of winning a home that he will be able to keep, as the reward of good conduct and industrious habits, and if we can rely upon what have heretofore been common motives of human action, the man will earn such a home, and in the practice of the virtues necessary to such a result, he will acquire habits of industry and frugality that will make him a good citizen thereafter.

We may be too sanguine in expectation of the good results that will follow, but we should be willing to try the experiment. The question is one that is now receiving much attention throughout the country. Several States have stand adopted the homestead exemption, and bills similar to the one now under discussion, in our Senate, are pending in the Legislature of Ohio and Pennsylvania with a strong probability of their passage.

LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP.—The New York Journal of Commerce has the following sound precautionary remarks, which ought not to be overlooked amidst the prevailing excitement:—

A cool examination of the facts in the case will help men to make better calculations. They have an idea that gold grows in California, and is to be had for the scraping, without reflecting upon the concomitants.

Let us suppose a hundred thousand men at the placers, and that each of them has amassed one tenth part of the smallest sum he hoped for when he started—for we take it no man dreams of less than a hundred thousand. One hundred thousand men, then, having each dug, say, eighty-four pounds of gold dust, (Troy weight) which, at an average of ten dollars an ounce for good and poor, will be about $10,000—we should have a thousand millions of gold thrown into circulation immediately, an amount which would decrease the value of gold an amount which would decrease the value of gold in the world at least one-half. This is no idle assumption.

Now we do not mean to say this will take place. On the contrary, we do not so yet see any reason for supposing that gold is to be much cheaper in our day than it now is; but we state the case in order to show, we take it on all, would be the effect of the realization of one tenth part of the expectations of men for the year 1849. Add to this, the probability that five hundred thousand persons will be in California within two years, (if the gold should continue as golden as now) and then consider what reasonable prospect there is of their expectations being fulfilled, and how the fulfilment of them would disappoint themselves in the end.

From the Cincinnati Nonpariel.

The Fate of the "Foreign Legion."

BY R. C. CHIPMAN.

The morning of the 14th of September broke clear and calm over the dark and frowning battlements of the castle of Chapultepec. The flag of the Mexicans streamed proudly out from the ramparts, and waved in all its gorgeousness in the gentle breeze that swept along the plain. Shining bayonets, and glistening sabres reflected back the sun's brightest rays, and deep mouthed cannon boomed out upon the surrounding country, threatening death and destruction to the advancing foe. On they came, filing out, column after column, from the suburbs of the little village of Tacubaya, and sweeping like a destructive tornado upon the devoted rumparts. Suddenly, from the batteries of the castle, a stream of flame and smoke shot forth, and all along the lengthened line, the missiles of terror and death went death wend hand in hand, cutting down the noble and brave, the good and generous, and strewing all in one mangled heap of gore and blood. War with all its blasting and desolating effects, was carrying grief and misery into many a heretofore happy family, and striking down the father and husband, the son and brother, in terrible and bloody havoc, and consigning them to one common and sorrowing grave. While the faces of the wife and sister at home were, perhaps, wreathed in smiles, that of the husband and brother was writhing in the agony of death, upon a foreign soil, and breathing out life's last sigh, amid the roar of cannon and the rattle of muskets. The scenes of that dreadful and fatal morn will never be forgotten.

But while this was transacting around Chapultepec, another, and a still more terrible scene was passing in the little town of Miscoux, some half a mile distant from Tacubaya. At the battle of Churbusco, the deserters under Riley had been captured, and after an impartial trial sentenced to be hung. They were known by the title of the "Foreign Legion," and were made up of men who had deserted the ranks of the Americans and joined the force of the enemy. The day set for their execution was the 14th of September and it also happened that the attack upon Chapultepec took place the same day.

The sun had just risen, and tinged the east with his purple ray, as they were led forth to die.—Thirty in number, and surrounded by a strong body of men, they advanced with slow steps towards the gallows, the muffled drum sending forth the solemn death notes, and giving to the whole the appearance of a military funeral rather than a public execution. They were arranged under the gallows, which was one erected for the purpose—being nothing more than two large posts set firmly in the ground, across the top of which was placed a pole of sufficient length to admit the bodies of thirty men. Beneath it the prisoners were arranged, with the noose around their necks—the other end of the rope being thrown over the pole, was grasped by three or four stout men, ready at a moment's warning to launch them into eternity.—A gloomy silence pervaded the spot, and as they gazed upon the group collected there, they found no sympathizing glance in the sorrowful faces and glaring eyes which were fixed upon them. They had destroyed the last feeling of respect felt for them, when they took arms against their own countrymen. The usually dark brow of Colonel H——y, who superintended the execution, was contracted by a deep frown, and his deep grey eyes twinkled savagely in their sockets as he galloped up to the spot, and reined in his smoking charger beside them.

'Is all ready, Lieutenant?' he asked of an officer who commanded the guard.

'Everything,' replied the officer.

'Then let them swing,' was the savage reply.

The Lieutenant turned and advanced towards the prisoners, when suddenly the eye of the Colonel fell upon the castle, and the deadly roar of artillery reached his ear.

'Lieutenant,' he suddenly exclaimed with startling energy in his voice.

'Aye, sir,' replied the officer, returning.

'Have everything ready but don't draw them up until the American flag waves out from the flag staff of Chapultepec Castle.'

'Aye, sir, it shall be done;' and the Lieut. returned to the gallows.

'If we aint hung until that castle is taken by the Americans we shall live a good long life yet,' suddenly exclaimed one of the prisoners under the beam.

'Then live you shall, for until the Star Spangled Banner waves in victory over yonder Castle, you shall not die,' replied Col. H——y sternly.

'Hurrah, boys! we'll live a long life yet. Old Bravo's the man to stick to the Castle as long as there's a shot in the locker, or a man to stand by him,' replied the fellow.

All eyes were now fixed with deep intensity upon the height—and gulling was the agony of suspense which they endured between the moments which elapsed during the terrible contest which was going on around the Castle hill. Suddenly the flag of the Mexicans went down amid the strife, and the Colonel shouted:

'There goes the enemy's banner—the Castle is won.'

'And there goes the flag back again: go it Old Bravo, shouted another of the Legion, as the Mexican flag came to the top of the staff, and waved to the breeze.

A muttered ejaculation escaped the lips of the Colonel, and each one again fixed his eyes upon the scene. The contest raged on with unabated vigor and in a few moments the brow of the hill was hidden from sight by the dense cloud of smoke which hung around it. A half hour passed, and as a strong wind swept down the plain and lifted the smoke from off the hight, the enemy's flag had again disappeared from the staff. A moment of deep anxiety followed, and then the American banner ran up the staff and floated proudly over the battlements.

'Up with them' thundered the deep voice of the Colonel; and the next moment thirty human beings were swinging in the last agonies of death from the gallows; and as they quivered in the rising sunbeams which glanced along the plain, no look of sympathy fell upon their detested features, for all considered that they richly deserved their fate. Such, reader, was the fate of the Foreign Legion—men who scorned all the attributes of nobleness and love of country which generally exist in an American bosom, both the standard of freedom, and a handful of comrades, in the heart of an enemy's country, surrounded by an overwhelming force, to lend a helping hand in destroying the brave little army which was toiling onward to death or victory. Dishonored they lived—hooted and despised they met the traitor's doom.

Nine Days Later from Chagres—Sickness and Death among the California Emigrants.

The intelligence by the steamer Crescent City from Chagres, the arrival of which, at New York, we announced yesterday, is not of a character calculated to increase the emigration to California by the Isthmus route, until it is certain conveyance from Panama can be obtained upon arriving at that port. Many will, no doubt, be disappointed in not receiving accounts of large arrivals of gold by this steamer. It appears that the emigrants to California suffer very much on the route from Chagres to Panama, and at both of those places, before they get to the gold region. A correspondent of the New York Herald, writing from Panama, on the 7th instant, says:

No urgency short of life and death should bring a man on this route; for a female it is utterly out of the question. It has taken most of our passengers eight days to get from Chagres to this city, and many are still on the road. The canoes from Chagres to Cruces cost $25 for each person, and $12 for a mule bringing a single trunk from the latter place have been paid by many. In fact, there are not half mules enough in the whole Isthmus to supply the demand.

He gives the following account of Chagres, and the route:

Chagres is a collection of one hundred negro huts with walls (when they have any) and roofs thatched with palm. A few turkey buzzards ornament each roof; and when it ceases to rain, they hold themselves out in humble imitation of a spread eagle, to dry. Low and swampy, it looks the abode of pestilence, as it is. Now, in the dry season, it rains ten times a day, and the earth is filled to saturation. In the eight wet months of the year it must be decidedly moist. We left the place with all convenient speed—some in large boats, which could make but little headway against the strong current; others in small ones, which could hold but two persons besides the two boatmen, and which made good progress up the stream. All had to sleep one night between Chagres and Cruces, the greater number were two nights on the way—some were three or four. The naked boatmen are generally efficient, tolerably honest and civil.—The sleeping places are the same as the Chagres huts, with mud floors, and nothing to eat. If a hen be found, the price is a dollar, and seventy-five cents for cooking. No bread, no sugar, no tea, no milk, no meat. Even these huts are few and far between, though the river banks are beautiful in their tropical vegetation, and seem capable of producing every thing which the heart can desire.—But the curse of floods is on the land, and it is difficult to imagine that good can ever come out of it.

Cruces is nearly as low, and quite as disagreeable as Chagres. We were compelled to remain there some days, in consequence of the impossibility of obtaining transportation. Of the road from Cruces to Panama, it is impossible to give an idea. The liveliest imagination cannot picture it. Mud holes, in which the mules mire up to their bellies; cart loads of boulder stones, which, in the time of the Spanish galleons, may have formed a pavement; ravines worn deep in the solid rock, and only wide enough for mule's feet below, and for the rider's legs above, with every possible acclivity and declivity, from forty-five degrees to perpendicular, all combine to make up the most impassible road now in actual use on the face of the globe. The mules, stepping in the same foot-prints, have worn another holes deep in the rock of the deep and steep ravines; and I saw a boulder stone, eighteen inches in diameter, with such a hole drilled half way through it. How the ladies of the party got across I am yet unable to decide. This much is certain that most of them practically assumed the pantaloons, and rode gallantly like the cavaliers around them.

But the saddest part of our story remains to be told. At Cruces, several cases of virulent cholera morbus, some think it cholera, appeared among us

Mr. Lockett, from New Orleans, was the first victim; then Capt. Elliott, of the quartermaster's department, and afterwards Mr. Birch, of New Orleans and Mr. George W. Taylor, of Providence. The disease was of great violence, and terminated in less than twenty hours. It is believed that all these gentleman have been imprudent. Poor Elliott, who was beloved and admired, had certainly been so. He had pitched his tent in a low wet place; he had eaten fruit, had taken violent exercise and then removed his flannel. He lies in consecrated ground at Cruces.

At Panama, we think ourselves safe, since the climate, the provisions and accommodations are all very well.

The 'California' has not arrived, and we are waiting for her with great impatience.

One word to our friends in the United States, who are feverish to go to California:—

1st.—Stay at home.

2d.—If you go there, take any route but this

3d.—If you insist on crossing the Isthmus, bring but one trunk, weighing not more than 125 lbs.; you should also bring tea and sugar, hard bread, and ham enough to last you from Chagres to Panama: brandy, to be used in moderation, do.

4th.—Ten cent pieces, as many as you can get transportation for—eight of them makes a dollar.

LATEST FROM CALIFORNIA.—The New York Herald, of Monday, publishes a letter from the West Coast of Mexico, of which the following is an extract:

MAZATLAN, Dec. 20, 1848.

The last dates from California arrived here by the schooner Boro, are equally flattering in relation to the gold region. The washings had ceased—owing to the cold weather, and the whole region was covered a foot deep with snow! Some parties had built log cabins, and intended to pass the winter on the spot.

The richness of the placer, as well as the extent, far surpasses any account yet published of it—gold being found nearly a hundred miles south of the original discovery! It is supposed that about $4,000,000 will have been extracted since the discovery. This appears to be too large; but, judging from the number of persons working—say five thousand—and their average gains per day, it will pass $2,000,000.

Immense numbers from this coast are leaving and preparing to leave: more would go were there any conveyances. Those most anxious and impatient, pass over to Lower California, and thence proceed by land. This port is entirely deserted, or nearly so, of the working classes. Several expeditions have been fitted out, both here and at San Blas, with money and provisions; and this country goods are very much in demand here—more so than our goods—a singular prejudice.

A NEW HISTORY.—It is rumored that Major Bliss, whose pen and sword alike contributed so largely to the glory of our arms in the late war with Mexico, is engaged in preparing a history of the late campaigns of General Taylor all of which he witnessed, and most of which he was consulted about.

We sincerely hope that this rumor may be correct. Our fame and character as a nation are concerned deeply in having a competent chronicler of the memorable achievements of the American army in Mexico, and it would be a and thing to have so important a work fall into the hands of men who may be either too little familiar with the minute history of the science of war to appreciate some of the most substantial claims of our officers to admiration, or whose view of the dignity and offices of history might be unworthy of the events which it would be their duty to commemorate.

We believe the country is prepared to place great faith in any account which Major Bliss might give of the period of his country's military history, in which he has borne a most enviable part, and few men we think would be less likely to mar the usefulness of such a work with undeservedly or undiscriminating laudation.

We know nothing of him except what is known to the world of his country, but if he is entitled to half the reputation which he enjoys for conscientiousness and modesty, and is withal possessed of the rare literary accomplishments which are, we presume, deservedly ascribed to him, he is the fittest man living to write the history which rumor credits him with having undertaken.—*New York Evening Post.*

The Philadelphia papers give an account of a serious personal rencontre on Wednesday morning, in a refectory near Twelfth and Chestnut streets between parties connected with rival Medical institutions in that city, which resulted in two of the party being severely stabbed in various parts of their bodies and limbs. The Times says: "Dr SAMUEL MCCLINTOCK, demonstrator of anatomy in the Philadelphia Medical College, it is stated, was attacked, knocked down, and beaten and kicked severely, by a half dozen or more of the antagonist party, and during the melee he received several stabs, and a young man named FARNHAM had seven stabs inflicted upon him in various places."

DIED,

On Wednesday evening, 31st ult., ISABELLA B., wife of Robert Bruce, Jr

The funeral will take place on Friday, 2d inst., at 1 o'clock, P. M., from the residence of her father, Alexander Miller, Fourth Street Road. The friends of the family are requested to attend without further notice. 2t

COUNTY MEETING.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY:

Gentlemen—The undersigned citizens and inhabitants of the county of Allegheny, having understood that a Bill is now before the Legislature of this State having its consummation a division of this county, and believing as we do that nineteen twentieths of the people of Allegheny county are opposed to such division, we would therefore request you to call a public meeting or meetings at such time and place as you may deem proper, in order that there may be an expression of public sentiment on this subject. Speedy action is requisite.

Very respectfully,

Wilson M'Candless, Wm. M. Marshall
Wm. M. Shinn, H. Nixon,
T. J. Bigham, A. T. Ayer,
Geo. E. Appleton, Thos Magill,
A. Washington, James Gormly,
N. Hackmaster, Sam Bowsburg,
John A. Wilie, T. L. M'Millan,
Wm. M'Candless, Wm Willson,
James Dunlep, J. Knox,
Geo. S. Selder, H. Parry,
C. H. M Smith, A. W. Loomis,
Wm. Henderson, E. B. Todd,
Joel Mohler, Jno. Laughrey,
Arthur M'Gill, Jno. D. M'Cord,
John Hall, Wm. Douglas,
Samuel C. Young, A. Hobson,
Chas. D. Paulson, Ray & Co.
Wm. Harris, James C. Henderson,
Saml. Gormly, Jno. H. M'Fadden,
Thos. Steel, Jas. W. Baxter,
Alex. H. Miller, Robert Hague,
Geo. F. Gilmore, Robt. Woods.

OFFICE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS,
Pittsburgh, Jan. 30, 1849.

In pursuance of the foregoing, we, the undersigned, Commissioners of the County of Allegheny, do hereby convene the citizens of the county to meet at the New Court House, on Saturday next, the 3d day of February, at 1 o'clock, P. M., for the purpose of obtaining a public expression of their views in this matter

JOSEPH T. MARKS,
THOMAS PERKINS } Comm'rs.
WM. BENSON,
feb1-1d3t

☞ USE THE PROPER MEANS.—If you wish to be successful in any undertaking, you must always use the proper means. Therefore, if you have a Cough, use JAYNE'S EXPECTORANT and be cured, for it is the proper means. Have you Asthma or difficulty of breathing, then the only efficient means to cure you is to use Jayne's Expectorant, which will immediately overcome the spasm which contracts the diameter of the tubes, and loosens and brings up the mucus which stops them up, and thus removes every obstruction to a free respiration, while at the same time all inflammation is subdued, and a cure is certain to be effected. Have you Bronchitis, Spitting of Blood, Pleurisy, or in fact any Pulmonary Affection, then use Jayne's Expectorant and relief is certain, and you will find that you have used the proper means.

For sale in Pittsburgh at the Pekin Tea Store, 72 4th street near Wood jan17

JAYNE'S EXPECTORANT.—We would call attention to this excellent remedy for Coughs, Colds, Consumption, Asthma, and all affections of the Throat and Lungs. Having several times within a few years past had occasion to use a medicine of this kind, we have by experience tested its excellent qualities, and are prepared to recommend it to others. Ministers or other public speakers afflicted with bronchial affections will find great benefit from its use. It is prepared by a scientific physician, and all classes will find it a safe and efficacious medicine in the diseases for which it is recommended.—[Columbus (Ohio) Cross and Journal.

For sale at the Pekin Tea Store, No. 70 Fourth street. my13

TESTIMONY TESTIMONY to the value of Dr. M'Lane's Vermifuge.—Read, all that doubt.

"A farmer, when placed at the entrance of a rat hole, enters the aperture, travels along the passage, seizes upon the rat, exterminates his existence, and drags the animal's defunct carcass to the light. And in like manner have I found Dr M'Lane's Anthelmintic Vermifuge to operate upon worms, those dreadful and dangerous tormentors of children. This remedy, like the ferret, enters the aperture of the mouth, travels down the gullet, hunts round the stomach, lays hold of the worms, sinkes the life out of the reptiles, sweeps clean their den, and carries their carcasses clear out of the system. This at least has been the effect of the vermifuge upon my children. WM. PULATT."

Naples, Jan 1847.

"This is to certify that I have used Dr. M'Lane's Vermifuge, and have found it to operate in like manner upon my children. JOHN BRIGGS.

Naples, June, 1847.

For Sale at the Drug Store of

J KIDD & Co

feb2-1t

LOOKING AHEAD.—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' LIFE PILLS AND COUGH SYRUP has been in use for the last 12 years, and has gained more 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 remedy may be within reach of all, it is sold at the low price of 25 cents per bottle

Prepared and sold by R. E. SELLERS, 57 Wood st, Pittsburgh, D. M. Curry, Allegheny, and druggists generally in both cities. oct2

MCLANE'S WORM VERMIFUGE.—The popularity which this medicine has acquired in Western Pennsylvania, is a rare guarantee of its excellence. The following gentlemen, highly respectable citizens of Allegheny and Beaver counties, have used this Vermifuge in their families, and offer the assurance of its great medical properties.

James Stratton, Fourth-st. Road, Pittsburgh
Mary J. Stratton " "
Karp Stratton, " "
Mary Burk, Beaver county
Sarah Hasbeziger, Manchester, near Pitt.
Margaret Lindsey, " "
James Burk, Sugar Hill
Agnes Burk, " "

For sale at the drug store of J KIDD & Co. 60 Wood st. jan1

Improvements in Dentistry.

DR. G. O. STEARNS, late of Boston, is prepared to manufacture and set BLOCK TEETH in whole and parts of sets, upon Suction or Atmospheric Suction Plates—TOOTHACHE CURED IN FIVE MINUTES, where the nerve is exposed. Office and residence next door to the Mayor's office, Fourth street, Pittsburgh.

Refers to—J. H. M'Fadden, F. H. Eaton. jan19

W. M. Wright, M. D., Dentist,

Office and residence on Fourth street, opposite the Pittsburgh Bank. Office hours from 9 o'clock to 12 A. M., and from 2 o'clock to 6 P. M. sept4-y

☞ Ladies who use Jonas' Squibob Lily White, have always a fine white transparent skin. Of this a trial will satisfy any one. Sold only in Pittsburgh, at 60 Liberty st nov19dawly

A. A. MASON & CO.,
No. 60 MARKET STREET, will continue their great semi-annual sale of DRY GOODS, for 30 days longer, during which time their extensive whole sale Rooms will be thrown open to their Retail Trade as heretofore. A. A. M. & Co.'s knowing that they are selling Dry Goods of every description from ten to fifteen per cent. less than ever before, do invite every person in want of dry goods, or who may be in want, to examine and purchase from our stock, at the lowest wholesale rates.

Our great object in reducing stock is to make room for Spring Goods, it being our intention to exhibit in March the largest and the richest stock of Dry Goods ever offered by any one house in America.

We shall continue the sale of our Bleached and Brown Muslins, Tickings and other Domestic Goods, at our former low rates, notwithstanding the recent advance of 15 per cent upon the same in eastern markets. feb2

Closing Lecture.

DR. CUTCHEON will give his last Lecture this evening, Friday, Feb. 2d, in APOLLO HALL, on the Brain, Spinal Marrow and Nerves.

Also, the Eye, Ear, and organs of the senses of Smell, Taste, &c. These parts will be illustrated by use of splendid enlarged models—the effects of improper and over use of these parts, with their various affections; and the proper and improper education of children will be discussed. At the close of the Lecture the Manikins will be put together before the audience, giving an opportunity of seeing all parts of the system on this evening.

Doors open at 6½ o'clock—Lecture to commence at 7. Tickets, 25 cents—to be had at the door and book store of Kay & Co feb2-d1*

To the Honorable the Judges of the Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, in and for the County of Allegheny.

THE petition of JAMES HOON, of the township of Mount Pleasant, in the county aforesaid, humbly sheweth, that your petitioner has provided himself with materials for the accommodation of travelers and others, at his dwelling house, in the township aforesaid, and prays that your honors will be pleased to grant him a license to keep a Public House of Entertainment. And your petitioner, as in duty bound will pray.

We, the subscribers, citizens of the aforesaid township do certify, that the above petitioner is of good reputefor honesty and temperance, and is well provided with house room and conveniences for the accommodation and lodging of strangers and travelers, and that said tavern is necessary.

Joseph Scott, Thos M Wilson,
C M'Calister, J Gamble,
E Porter, Jno Hamilton,
P House, Jno Carson,
W M'Kindley, Jno Martin,
Isaac M'Cullough, Thos Phillips.
feb3-w1t*3

Fourth Ward Public Schools.

THE Directors are happy to announce to the citizens of the Ward that these Schools will re-open, in the new building, on Monday, the 5th inst.

Pupils will be required to obtain new tickets of admission, which may be had of either of the Directors, viz: W. W. Wallace, J. Wiggins, C. Yeager, R. E. McGowan, C. B. M. Smith and A. G. Reinhart, one of whom will be at the school house on Friday and Saturday, to issue permits and conduct visitors through the building.

Parents are requested to call for the tickets.

A. G. REINHART, President.

A RARE CHANCE.

WANTED—A partner in the Publishing business, in a large establishment with a profitable run of work to commence with. He must be a man of un