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

CINCINNATI:—C. W. JAMES, No. 10 Morrison street, Cincinnati, is our agent for the city. Advertisements and subscriptions handed to him will receive prompt attention.

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

☞ SEE NEXT PAGE FOR LOCAL MATTERS TELEGRAPHIC NEWS, &c.

THE DUTY OF PITTSBURGH, AND THE DUTY OF HER YOUNG MEN.—An address delivered before the Young Men's Mercantile Library and Mechanics' Institute, of Pittsburgh, by Solomon W. Roberts, Esq.

This eloquent address, which is peculiarly interesting to every Pittsburgher, will be published in our paper entire, on Saturday morning. This will give the thousands of our citizens who had not the pleasure of hearing it delivered, the privilege of reading it by their fire-sides. Persons wishing for a number of extra copies will give notice at the counter.

The editor of the Post says, that "a puddler requests him to state, that there is no distress, and not likely to be any, while the citizens of Pittsburgh, and elsewhere, continue to act as liberally as they have heretofore."

We had a few remarks on this text yesterday, but some facts have since come to our knowledge which are a striking comment on the statement of the Post's informant. We have learned, that since the turn out of the puddlers, numerous applications for employment at the cotton mills, of boys and girls, have been made every day. Many of these are seeking employment in the factories for the first time, having heretofore attended school or assisted at home in the families to which they belong, but who are now forced to go out for wages, made indispensable by the father or brother being dismissed from their usual employment at the iron mills. In many cases, where the sons, and some times the only sons of widows, were able, from their earnings at the rolling mills, to support the family, or nearly so, the children—girls of thirteen to eighteen years, and sometimes the mother herself—are forced to look for work at the cotton mills, or from the slop shops, and as large numbers of *experienced* spinners, carders and weavers, and seamstresses, are idle, owing to the good offices of the Post in their behalf, it is almost impossible for these new applicants to obtain employment. In the offices of the cotton mills especially, it is a familiar scene to see a mother pleading with tears that her little girl or boy may get a place, at but $1 25 or $2 per week, to preserve her family from absolute want. The cases of widowhood and poverty are much better known, and sympathy and relief much oftener sought for and found in the cotton mills, than in the office of the Morning Post. It happens to be within our knowledge, that the proprietors of one, at least, of the much denounced cotton mills, who, pursuant to a provision in the ten hour law, were obliged to dismiss some fifty or more minors, between 13 and 16 years, in last month, are now granting weekly allowances to several families, made dependent upon charity by the operation of a policy brought into existence by the Post and its coadjutors, in the abundance of their ostensible friendship for the poor operators.

THE CERTIFICATES OF CLERGYMEN IN FAVOR OF PATENT MEDICINES.—In the last Presbyterian Advocate, THOS. H. ELLIOTT, M. D., of Allegheny, takes strong ground against the practice of clergymen certifying to the value of Patent Medicines, in a Letter to Rev. Dr. McCluskey, who has lately lent his name for this purpose.

Dr. Elliott lays down several positions, which he illustrates and argues with very considerable skill and force. Our limits will only permit us to give the positions, which are as follows:

1. The certifiers lend their influence to sustain a class of men who are guilty, either of imposture, or of conduct incompatible with true charity.

If the medicine is worth any thing the Doctor thinks that both christian charity and professional honor require them to disclose it for the good of mankind. He gives Dr. Jenner, as an illustration, who, when he had discovered the preventive power of vaccination, did not pervert it into a means of speculation.

2. The certifiers are ignorant of the ingredients in the patent nostrums whose curative powers they endorse; but even if they knew them, and their ordinary medicinal powers, they are incompetent to pass judgment therefrom. The "*ne sutor*" axiom is as apposite here as in painting. Some *far more* than the most learned and experienced physician himself often fails to make distinctions, as to the mode and extent of the curative operations of medicines, satisfactory to his own mind. And this proceeds from, and is proof of, his skill. Where the ignorant jumps to sudden and sure conclusions, the more enlightened hesitates, pauses, and, perhaps, retraces his steps.

3. The certifiers do great mischief to the sick in inducing an uninteligent and indiscriminating use of the nostrums thus endorsed. This mischief follows from the incompetent character of the endorsement, as shown above. And the injury done will be proportionate exactly to the influence of the individual furnishing the certificate. Hence clerical certificates are the ones most to be deprecated. The opinions of no other class of men exert so much influence in a community.

The Doctor advises clergymen, under this head, that what may have cured him may not cure another. The old rule of "What is good for the goose is also good for the gander," is not applicable to medicine.

4. The certifiers lay themselves open to the two charges of an uninformed, and, therefore, unbes coming interference, and an improper disregard of the views and rights of the medical profession.

Under this head the writer is very severe, but we can only take an extract. Speaking of the medical profession, the Doctor says:—

Does she ask too much when she demands that the members of that profession [the clerical] acknowledge and respect her rights? She, the very best authority in the matter, has declared, and on the highest moral considerations, that the whole system of "the profession of secret nostrums—is "inconsistent with beneficence," equally "derogatory and reprehensible;" and is her voice to go for naught? Is her demand too exacting when she claims this as her special province? The case is a plain one. With the same propriety that the reverend clergy furnish certificates to patent medicines, might the physician endorse the insanities and blasphemies of Jo Smith's Mormon Bible, or dictate to the dying man wife and of what sect the clergyman shall be that ministers by his bedside!

WASHINGTON'S BIRTH DAY.—To day is the anniversary of him who was "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen." In the contemplation of the history of this great and good man, the heart is crowded with feelings of mingled emotion. Washington lived not for an age, but as a beacon light and example for his countrymen to emulate until the end of time.—"His virtues, says a writer, can hardly be equalled, certainly never exceeded." Circumstances gave him opportunities for exertions that no man ever had before, or can probably have after him"—he united all the great characteristics of a warrior, with a statesmanship equal to any emergency, blended with a purity and simplicity of character, of which history can afford no parallel.—Party distractions never moved him, party prejudices never swayed him from doing his duty.—He was alike calm and undismayed amid the denunciations and startling prophecies of his wily enemies as if all was peace and sunshine. He contemplated with great care, and acted with unequalled decision. He read men with equal sagacity, and selected his officers for their talents and probity. He was seldom wrong in his judgment. He may have committed errors, but never did any foolish acts. He was truly in every respect the Father of his country. In her prosperity all his fondest desires seemed to have been concentrated, and his last breathings were, that "God would continue to smile upon her." On the return of this anniversary of his birth, it is well for all, to pause and reflect upon the character of this illustrious man, and also of those who were co temporary with him in what may truly be termed the "*Heroic age.*" Can any American contemplate the history of those times which tried men's souls, and not feel disgusted and heart stricken at the thought that there should exist at present in any part of our Union one spirit so base and unworthy as would be willing to see the structure, reared at so precious a cost by the Fathers of the Revolution, torn and rent asunder, merely because a small proportion of the American people desire to extend over Territories now free, that foul blot upon our National honor—*Slavery*. Forbid it Heaven.

HAGUE ST. EXPLOSION.—The subscription in behalf of the sufferers by this unfortunate accident at New York, amounts to $16,627.

THE WESTERN RAILROAD.—A few days ago, a large rail road meeting was held at Mansfield, Ohio, to promote the construction of the Ohio and Pennsylvania Railroad, through Richland County.

The proceedings are reported in the *Mansfield Shield*. Mr. Larwill, one of the Directors, attended, and we make the following extract from his speech.

"It depends upon you of Richland, to say whether our road shall halt in its progress when it reaches Loudonville, or whether it shall be pushed onward through your county.

You have now no director in your county. The people of Pittsburgh have done the most for the road, and they very fairly claim to have the most to say in the management of the road. The subject is becoming of more and more interest to them. They assist no other project, and this will receive their undivided support. They now wish to construct that part along the river with their own money, which of itself will do a remunerating business.

They desired a quorum of the Board at Pittsburgh, and consequently the city has four directors, while Ohio has three. The Board is thus more efficient, and Ohio is represented along that portion where there is now any progress making. As the Director nearest to Richland, I am requested by the Board, to watch the interests of the road in this county, and I hope the little assistance I may be able to give will be as cheerfully received as it is cordially offered."

Mr. Straughan, the President Engineer, also addressed the meeting, and explained the policy of the company.

Mr. Purdy, of Mansfield, then arose, and said he had a resolution which he proposed offering. He know this county had been slow to move, and he considered this whipping well deserved.—Old Richland was sneered at by our neighbors—the counties West of us. Crawford with her $150,000 trying to induce *some rail road* to come through their county, they might well sneer at us, but he hoped not long. Richland could, and would, redeem her standing, and he believed an organized effort would undoubtedly succeed. To test this opinion in this full meeting, he would offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That we can, and will, raise the necessary amount of stock to grade and bridge the Ohio and Pennsylvania road through Richland county.

Mr. Bartley hoped every man would vote in accordance with his opinion. The propriety of making the effort now depends upon public opinion, and he hoped to hear it clearly expressed in the vote. Some further remarks proving that a combined and earnest effort would succeed, were made by Mr. Bartley, when the resolution was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Brinkerhoff spoke on the mode of organization, and offered a resolution that when this meeting adjourned, it adjourn to meet every fortnight, to hear the report of the committees engaged in procuring stock. A resolution of thanks to Messrs. Larwill and Straughan, was also adopted, and the meeting adjourned.

We are glad to see this vigorous action on the part of the citizens of Richland county, and we understand that the amount subscribed in the county now amounts to one hundred thousand dollars.

CALIFORNIA.—The Baltimore American says that there are at the present time a larger number of vessels loading at that port, for California, than at any one time since the discovery of the golden deposites in that distant region. The same is true of all the Atlantic ports, while passages by the steamships, by the way of Panama, are engaged for months ahead. Notwithstanding the discouraging accounts which are received by every arrival, of the poverty, sickness, and death, of many of those who have tried the golden land, thousands of others are ready to rush into the vortex, and risk every thing which makes life desirable, and even life itself, to try their luck in the desperate venture for wealth.

Among the vessels now departing, many of them are loaded with lumber, and other building materials. The ship Louisa Bliss, of Beaufort, N. C., left that port on the 4th inst., for San Francisco. Among the articles composing her cargo we notice 212,000 feet lumber, (70,000 feet of which are in house frames) and 30,000 bricks. The ship is said to have drawn 16 feet water when she left her moorings, and went to sea in 40 minutes.

The aggregate receipts of California gold at the United States Mint, up to the 15th inst., have been about eight millions of dollars, and it is estimated that some two millions more have been taken to the branch mints, and that probably half a million is in private hands, making the aggregate of California gold brought to the Atlantic seaboard about ten and a half millions of dollars.

THE HARMONIOUS DEMOCRACY OF NEW YORK.

The following spirited account of the late Locofoco meeting at Tammany Hall, we take from the New York Tribune. It will be seen with pleasure by our readers, that there is but little prospect of harmony among the discordant materials which form the unhallowed coalition of the divided Democratic party of that State:

THE ROW AT THE WIGWAM.

Old Tammany was the scene of an unusual amount of the most intense "Union and Harmony" on Saturday evening last. A call for a mass meeting of those opposed to the Wilmot Proviso, signed by Edward C. West, James T. Brady, Daniel E. Sickles, Robert J. Dillon, and ten others of the Hunkerest of the Hunker General Committee, had been several days published in the papers. Huge posters had been stuck up throughout the city, beseeching the faithful to be on hand. The public sentiment for the occasion had been carefully prepared and embodied in a series of resolutions, boiling over with patriotism and zeal. It had all been arranged who should figure as officers, and that Chas. O'Conor, James T. Brady, Daniel E. Sickles, Robert H. Morris, Edward Strahan, John McKeon, and Francis B. Cutting, should do the speaking, and to all appearance things bade fair for a "decided demonstration." But alas for the uncertainty of human calculation! Capt. Rynders Ex Ald. Purdy and others, who didn't sign the call for the meeting, were on the spot a little too early for those who did, and taking possession of the committee room and the large Hall, had every thing their own way. Capt. Rynders opened the ball by nominating Mr. Purdy for the Chair, which he took amid a tempest of yells, hisses and groans. Mr. Sickles made his way to the stand, and nominated Chas. O'Conor for Chairman, when he was immediately "hustled out," reaching the bottom of the stairs in a somewhat damaged state, and begging for dear life. Several others, who ventured to murmur disapprobation at the proceedings, were rudely ejected from the Hall.

The chairman read a series of resolutions amid such turmoil and confusion that it was impossible for any considerable portion of those present to hear a word he uttered. The vote was taken and the resolutions declared adopted, though a good many voted Nay. The first Resolution (as printed) asserts that the hopes of Freedom for the world are centered in the perpetuation of the American Union. The second calls down terrible imprecations on the heads of those fanatics, whether North or South, who are plotting disunion. The third advocates a strict construction of the Constitution. The fourth asserts the duty of Congress to admit California as a State. The fifth announces what will probably be interesting news to those who left Tammany with sore heads, viz: that "the divisions in the Democratic party have been happily adjusted." The same resolution rejoices in the anticipation of victory "with all its attendant blessings to the country." Of course the Spoils are not included in the "attendant blessings."

After the adoption of the resolutions, yells were given for Rynders, Brady, and others. The Captain took the stand, and, after gesticulation to the groaning and growling menagerie for about fifteen minutes, he was heard to say, "Put that white livered scoundrel out of the house!" (referring to an obnoxious individual with a shocking bad hat). The mandate was obeyed, and comparative quiet having been restored, the great gun of the party went on with his speech, in the course of which he declared himself not only in favor of a union of the Democracy, but very decidedly favorable to a continuance of the present Union of the American States. So the Country is safe at last.

Mr. Lorenzo B. Shepard followed in a speech about the Union, Gen. Jackson, and the Syracuse, Utica, and Herkimer Conventions. The other Speakers were Judge Groves of Texas, and Henry Arcularius. Others were loudly called for by those who had not seen the bills and didn't seem to understand when the farce was over, but the knowing ones made a rush for the door, the gas was turned off, and thus ended the Great Union Demonstration.

We heard one Free Soiler congratulating another on the result as a Free Soil triumph, but the other replied, "You were not present, I reckon, when those tremendous groans were given for the Wilmot Proviso, and Martin Van Buren." The fact is, the whole quarrel has nothing to do with principle, but is a scramble to see who shall be at the head of the party, and so stand the best chance for spoils, in case the people of the city shall ever again so far forget themselves as to submit to locofoco rule.

CALIFORNIA LIFE.—A resident at San Francisco, in a letter to his friends in Boston, gives an amusing account of the shifts which a large portion of the emigrants to that new El Dorado, are driven, in order to procure a livelihood. Among others he states:

"That a young gentleman in gold specs—a recent graduate in Yale College—has commenced the wood sawing business, and is doing will. A Philadelphia lawyer is peddling pea nuts at a handsome profit through the streets of San Francisco. A young gentleman from this city, after trying hard for a clerkship, commenced digging cellars at San Francisco, and thereby accumulated sufficient to start himself in a less laborious profession."—*Bogton Atlas.*

MR. FORWARD'S CONFIRMATION, as Charge d'Affaire to Denmark, has given universal satisfaction to this community. No one who knows him can doubt his fitness for the situation, or for one much more important, and who is not pleased to find him reaping the reward of his important labors in the Whig cause, and of his many sterling virtues as a man and a citizen. He will leave us with the heartiest wishes of this great community, for his success and health abroad, and his safe return, to spend the evening of his days among his neighbors and townsmen.

Three of our rolling mills are now in successful operation, with hands from the east, and as others are arriving almost daily, and more are expected, we may look for all our mills to be going on as usual, night and day, in a few weeks. The *American* of yesterday afternoon, has the following paragraph:—

"At Cincinnati, as we learn by intelligence this morning, some of the Mills started at the terms proposed by the owners, but having made no provision of police to protect them, the strikers entered the mills and ousted the workmen. No better evidence could be adduced of the propriety of the course pursued here of protecting the mills, and those at work in them, by an efficient and ample police."

Disunion.

The following pungent article, upon the subject of disunion, we copy from the Baltimore *Sun*, one of the oldest and most energetic papers in the Union. Coming as it does, from one of the leading papers of Maryland, it may be considered as expressing the sentiments of the people of a slave State, upon this important question, and it therefore commends itself to the attention of the entire Union. We feel assured that the views which the *Sun* takes upon the subject will meet a hearty response in the heart of every citizen—whether living north or south of Mason and Dixon's line—who truly, and properly estimates the value of our present glorious Confederacy.

DISUNION.—Some of our contemporaries and some of our correspondents, will persist in anticipating the possibility of disunion. No sooner has the good ship of State thrown off the "threatening" surge like spray from her bows, than again we hear the cry from some scared landman, "breakers ahead!" True, true enough, there are "*breakers*," and those who choose to go out from the ship into their own, frail, tinny bark, will not be slow to find them. Singly, or in fleets, they will but dare the tempest that must overwhelm them. From the south or from the north, the same inevitable fate menaces the foolish adventurer and his crazy bark. Happy it will be for them if the staunch old ship should still be within helping distance of their drowning cries. And once aboard again, what a fate must await them there. The dainty powder monkey who has stool fast by the ship will decline with proper dignity, the equivocal honor of their acquaintance.

But there is a question which seems to have been overlooked by the agitators of disunion. Who is to carry out the practical department of the project? We could split the Union into fragments by a stroke of the pen, and declare it dissolved beyond remedy before the next issue of the Sun; but we should be at a loss to know where to look for a corporal's guard to help us to carry out the notion. We think we see our good citizens passing by on the other side, throwing a glance of pity this way in quest of the man who dissolved the Union.—Perhaps some half a dozen loafers—and we don't know but we may slander to that extent even that fashionable class of society—might discover a chance for a little gratuitous notoriety with nothing more disastrous than a lunatic asylum ahead, and take a hand's turn for a day or two with us. But what would all the rest of the folks be at? Would the agriculturist desert the grateful labor of his teeming glebe; the artisan, the ringing sphere of the toil; the merchant the profitable bustle of the counting room, to rally around the traitorous rag sallied with the word "disunion?" Is there one of our readers who would not resent the suspicion that he could be relied upon in such an event?—Resent it, aye, and with stinging indignation too.

An "Old Farmer," writing to the National Intelligencer from the good old State of Maryland, talks in the following sensible strain to this point of the subject:

"Is Mason's and Dixon's line to be the division? Eye to eyeing the State of Maryland will not permit it. Does any one suppose that Maryland will consent to be a border district, subject to the constant incursions of smugglers, plunderers, and marauders from both sides? Let us suppose ourselves placed for a short time in the city of Baltimore. We shall see a succession of ships, steamboats, canal boats, railroad cars, wagons, and stages, arriving and departing every hour in the day, loaded with passengers and merchandize. They communicate with the east, the north, the west, and the south. Everybody is busy loading and unloading them. Nobody has thought of the idea of disunion, much less to put it in practice. Besides, Baltimore is now earnestly engaged in extending her railroads to the north and the west. In a few years she has good reason to expect her commerce will be doubled. Does any one suppose that she will give up all this tide of prosperity for the sake of following the baleful wildfire of disunion."

The writer also undertakes to speak for Virginia, in this wise:

"She too, is pushing her railroads and canals across the Alleghanies to reach the waters of the Ohio. In a few years the immense products of the northwestern States will be pouring into her lap, and half a million of people will be assembled at Norfolk and Richmond to unload railroad cars and canal boats from the west and dispose of their cargoes. She has no time to think of disunion; prudence also wills to bring Canada five hundred miles nearer to her borders by converting the State of Ohio into a foreign territory."

And as for the Northwestern States, the "Old Farmer," shrewdly intimates that they will certainly not relinquish their market at New Orleans. But add to this:

"In a few years the United States will be engaged in making a railroad from the waters of the Mississippi to the Pacific ocean—a work of greater labor than the wall of China or the pyramids of Egypt. In a few years more a hundred iron horses, with lungs of brass and hoofs of steel, will be thundering through the passes of the Rocky Mountains, each with a train of a hundred railroad cars in his rear. The merchandize they bring from India and China, will be distributed along the valley of the Mississippi from New Orleans to the Lake of the Woods. A hundred other railroads will transport a share of it to all the cities on the Atlantic seaboard, and a wealth of it will find its way to Europe. Will any one, under these circumstances, have time or inclination to talk about disunion."

Messrs Greely & McElrath have our thanks for a number of their very excellent Whig Almanac for 1850. We are also indebted to Mr. Lockwood for *Poor Richard's Almanac for* 1850, as written by Benjamin Franklin, for the years of 1733 '34 and '35, and which contains a life of that distinguished man, with most of his profound maxims.

UNITED STATES MONTHLY LAW MAGAZINE.—We have received No. 2 of this able work, published at New York under the editorial conduct of Josh Livingston, Esq. a highly respectable member of the bar of that city. It contains a vast amount of matter appertaining to the law, and cannot fail of proving a valuable source of knowledge to the members of the profession generally. To the student it will be found particularly interesting.—It is published monthly at the price of $5 per annum at 54 Well st. *New York.*

FROM HARRISBURG.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

HARRISBURG, Feb. 18, 1850.

This being petition day in the House, nothing was done in that body beyond the presentation of petitions, mostly of a private character, and a few reports from committees upon subjects which have, heretofore, been noticed. Towards the close of the session, Mr. Conyngham, chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, made an effort to get up the General Appropriation Bill, but failed. After that the bill appropriating $3,000 to re-construct the County buildings in Carbon County, came up on reconsideration, and was again voted down. It is the general wish of the House that this pertinacious subject will not again be brought before that body. It never could have obtained half of the indulgence that has already been granted it, had it not been for the strong Locofoco character of the County.

Any thing that will foster Locofocoism, any where, or under any circumstances, may be expected to find favor with the Locofocos in the present House of Representatives, for a more blind and stupid set of party tools were never congregated together in so little space before.—Already, however, there are beginning to be pregnant signs of disruption; and several of those who aspire to be leaders, have already been together by the ears on various questions public and private and the prospect now is, that these personal conflicts will result in permanent and lasting feuds between a few of the more prominent. The state of feeling between Messrs. Porter of Northampton, and Beaumont, of Luzern, especially has attracted the attention of the whole House; and such bitterness dealt out by these pious members against each other, though not very loud, are of a deep and portentous character, and bode any thing but good to the "unterrified Democracy." The great contest will be upon the Apportionment Bill; and I perceive the bill reported by the majority of the Committee in the House, will fail to command any thing like the full strength of the party. Though generally approved of, as a whole, some of the double districts give very great dissatisfaction to the present Locofoco Representatives, who fancy that such an Apportionment will be of no particular advantage to them individually, and that it may be the means of having their pretensions overslawed by future competitors for the honors of the party at home.

In the Senate, I believe, there was no business of public interest transacted. COBDEN.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19, 1850—8 P. M.

So far as appearances indicate the revolution threatened by Clingman, in his late incendiary speech, has commenced. In pursuance of their purpose of keeping out California, "at all hazards and to the last extremity," the slavery faction has been deliberately engaged, since twelve o'clock this morning, in consuming time by calls of the yeas and nays upon *pro forma* and frivolous motions, as a means of staving off action, and stopping the wheels of legislation.

Gov. Doty, of Wisconsin, this morning, moved a resolution instructing the Committee on Territories to bring in a bill for the unconditional admission of California. A motion to lay this resolution on the table was defeated—ayes 70, noes 121. This was so significant an indication of the temper of the House, upon this great question of the day, that the ultra men from the slave States took the alarm, and instantly resolved to bring their tactics into play. But the free States moved on one step farther, they called the previous question. It was seconded—ayes 90, noes 72.

Then began the revolution *a la* Cingman. The question was on applying the previous question. The southern members were determined that this motion should not be put, because it it were the House would be brought to the direct vote on the instructions. The game was therefore commenced of calling the yeas and nays on motions to adjourn, which alternated with motions on the part of southern members to be excused from voting.—As this amusement has been going on for eight hours, the roll has probably been called about twenty two times.

What the result will be it is impossible now to say; both parties appear determined to adhere to their positions, and to sit all night, but, in contests of this kind, the minority has always the advantage, and I therefore presume that, ere morning dawns, our friends will have yielded on this particular point. Some of them think it of little consequence, or, rather, think it of little use to urge the House to maintain a conflict with the minority upon a point of secondary importance, when the rules give the latter such a manifest advantage. Still, as I have said before, it often becomes a matter of vital necessity to adhere to a stand once taken, though it be not the exact spot on which the final trial of strength is to be made.

It was noticeable to day that Mr. Buchanan stood in the middle aisle, at the most critical stage of the proceedings, exerting his influence over the Pennsylvania Democrats, to induce them to oppose the demand for the previous question, and, of course, the final passage of the resolution of instructions. I observed that one or two members, supposed to be more especially under old Buck's nod and beck, obeyed his wishes and directions by going through the tellers against the previous question.

The rumors respecting a change in the Cabinet continue. I have stated the substance of them in previous letters, and shall venture no farther speculations upon this delicate subject.

I learn from the best sources that the Democrats expect to pass the Bradbury resolutions calling for the reasons for the dismissal of Democratic office holders, and that they will not act upon any more appointments, unless under special circumstances, until an answer be received. I still doubt whether they can pass the resolution, and, if they do, I very much doubt whether the President will answer it.

Mr. Meredith has a levee, this evening, which from the notes of preparation perceivable in social circles, may well be expected to be a crowded and brilliant affair. For the sake of the fair and curious, among your readers, I regret that graver duties will preclude my presence, at the entertainment, for it would be gratifying to me to take for them a *coup d'œil* of the festive scene, in which, beyond a doubt, the daughters of the Old Keystone will hold a gay pre-eminence.

Half past 10, P. M.

The legislative crisis has not yet passed. The last vote I have taken a note of stands for adjourning 60, against it 79. JUNIUS.

MURDEROUS CAMPHENE.—We have frequently says the "N. Y. Commercial" warned housekeepers, and all persons, against the use of camphene gas, than which few combustible materials have wrought so much mischief, occasioned so many fires and sacrificed so many lives. The great fire in San Francisco was attributed to the bursting of a camphene lamp, as have been other destructive fires. Many persons have been maimed for life by this fluid taking fire while they have been using it, and many have been burned to death. The sale of it ought to be prohibited, but first public sentiment must be impressed with a lively sense of its dangerous character. The Journal of Commerce gives the following account of another dreadful accident from the use of it.

PAINFUL CALAMITY, WITH ITS MORAL.—On Saturday evening, a daughter of Mr. Rufus S. King, about 16 years of age, residing at 770 Greenwich street, near Abingdon Square, was so dreadfully burned upon her arms and chest, that her life is in imminent danger. She was at a neighbor's house, where the lady was cleaning a pair of soiled gloves with camphene. Miss King remarked that she would clean her own, and pouring out the liquid, rubbed her gloved hands together, and then went to the fire to dry them. She was cautious not to go too near, as camphene was inflammable, and just as she replied she would be cautious, the gas evolved by this dangerous liquid instantly took fire. The flames at once caught her dress, and in her terror she ran up three flights of stairs, with a sheet on the neck of the lady she was visiting. Her screams were frightful, and in struggling to release herself from the burning girl, they both fell upon the floor. In the meantime a servant girl ran in and with presence of mind, pulled up the carpet which she threw about her, while the lady of the house went for water. She returned as soon as possible, and taking away the carpet, which had only scorched the fire, threw on the water and extinguished what remained."

Medical aid was had almost immediately, and it was found that her hands, arms, neck and chest, were dreadfully burned, almost to the bone, and her face also badly scorched. Her sufferings were excruciating, and it was feared on Saturday night she would not survive. Last evening Dr. Kingsley, the physician, thought her life might be preserved, but it is doubtful, if she survives, whether her arms or hands will ever be capable of use. More than five minutes must have elapsed before the fire was extinguished, and during this time her agony was frightful. The clothes of the lady of the house, and her neck and hands, were also considerably injured by the flames.

This painful calamity adds another to many former admonitions concerning the use of camphene. It must be remembered, it is not necessary that a flame should come in contact with this liquid to ignite it. The gas which is evolved when camphene is poured from one vessel to another, or which is thrown off by sudden evaporation, as in the case of the drying of the gloves before a fire, is the source of peril. Let this painful accident, and the suffering from it, be remembered as a warning.

The N. Y. Commercial Advertiser publishes a letter from a young man in California to his mother in that city, which shows to what extent the pernicious vice of gambling is practiced in the land of gold.—The letter is dated San Francisco, Dec. 23d, and says.—

Apparently there is but one business in the town, and that is gambling. One young man recently laid a thousand dollars on roulette table, and, at one turn of the wheel, won twenty seven thousand. It was his first and last night on shore. He went aright back by the steamer. Two hundred thousand dollars were seen upon a card last night.

There are fifty gambling houses; for the place, splendid buildings, with some forty tables each of different games. Each table has upon it piles of Spanish dollars, and upon these eagles and half eagles, and surmounting these bars of gold about the size of one's little finger, with their value, $49,62, stamped upon them. These tables vary in their amount of money, from ten thousand to five hundred thousand dollars. London, Paris, New York and New Orleans, have sent their most skillful gamblers, and the gold on their tables is really enough to give a man sore eyes,

REMARKABLE SLEEP.—The Massachusetts papers report that Zadock Hersey, a soldier of the Revolution, aged 93, fell asleep at his residence in Pembroke, Massachusetts, on Monday evening the 6th January, at about 6 o'clock, and slept to the succeeding Sunday morning at 3 o'clock, taking no sustenance, but water. He was apparently in a natural sleep, and no particular change took place till 24 hours before death, when his breath continued to grow shorter, till he ceased to breath.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 17.

More about the Fire—Less one Million—The Picayune Reissued—Markets, &c.

The great fire was first discovered shortly after midnight, on the morning of the 16th. The building in which it originated, contained much combustible material, and a pretty strong wind blowing at the time, caused the flames to spread rapidly. Twenty buildings were burnt on Camp street, including the Picayune buildings and some ten or twelve in Bank place. They were mostly all stores. Five insurance offices are among the buildings destroyed. The New York Sun Mutual Insurance Company, it is said, will loose about one hundred and fifty thousand dollars by this calamity.

The Picayune establishment was almost wholly destroyed. They saved scarcely any of their type or fixtures—fortunately, however, their loss is mostly if not wholly covered by insurance. True to the proverbial spirit of enterprise which characterizes the proprietors of this excellent journal, they did not remain long idle, and this morning the Picayune is out on its usual rounds, not so neatly printed but looking very well. It gives an account of the fire, and estimates the entire loss sustained by this disaster at about one million of dollars.

FROZEN TO DEATH.—Thomas Hutchison, who had been for many years an inmate of the Alms House, was frozen to death, on Thursday, the 14th inst. Another melancholy evidence of the bad effects of liquor. He was formerly of Cecil township, this County, about 50 years of age.

We hear that James Crawl, of Crooscreek township, was found on Friday morning, near Eldersville, nearly dead. He was removed to the house of Mr. John Noah, and every effort made to restore him; but he expired in a very short time. He was about 45 or 50 years of age, and has left a wife and children. His death was attributable to the effects of liquor and intensity of the cold. *Washington, Pa. Reporter.*

A SMART OLD LADY.—In the town of Williamsburgh, Massachusetts, resides Mrs. Aaron Warner, a lady seventy five years of age. During the summer and autumn of 1848, she spun one hundred runs of woollen yarn; doubled and twisted forty five runs of it; knit seventy six pairs of men's seamed socks, and wove sixty yards of rag carpeting, besides doing the ordinary house work for her family. The past summer she made four hundred weight of the most excellent cheese; wove more than twenty five yards of flannel; spun and doubled and twisted yarn for sixty pairs of men's socks, besides doing many other kinds of work. She is a perfect pattern of order, neatness, and industry, and furnishes an example that all younger ladies would do well to imitate.

A conspiracy to assassinate President Louis Napoleon, formed by some convicts in the hulks, is spoken of in a Parisian paper. The conspirators drew lots who should perform the job. The lot fell on a young man who made various ineffectual efforts, until the conspirators began to threaten him with vengeance for his delay, when he disclosed the plot. The Prefect of Police denies the truth of the story.

Rejected Valentines, to the number of 4,000, were returned by the letter carriers to the Boston Post Office, many of them apparently very costly, in elegant envelopes. They were refused on account of the too prevalent practice of sending insulting coarse and vulgar missives by post on Valentine's Day, and which thousands of persons have become offended at.

PLANK ROAD.—Ten miles of the Meadville, Allegheny & Brokenstraw Plank Road has been placed under contract. The contract has been awarded to H. Colburn & Co., of this place, at $1,550 per mile, including bridges, and all other work—The road is to be finished from Meadville to Gay's Mills by the 1st of November.—*Meadville Gazette.*

A GOOD SEND.—The wife of George A. Hanley, of Philadelphia, on Saturday evening, found a bandbox in the street, with a fine female babe in it, and having been *fruitlessly* married 22 years concluded to adopt it.

A meeting has been held in Boston, and a memorial circulated, asking for an appropriation of $100,000,000 to construct a railroad and line of telegraph from St. Louis to San Francisco.

DAMAGES.—Madame Carnaliz, of Mobile, in September last, had her leg broken just above the ancle by the falling of several pieces of wood out of the cars of the Mexican Gulf rail road. Suit for damages was brought by her against the company, and the jury has rendered her $1,000 with costs.

NEWSPAPERS.—A bill has passed the Senate of Ohio, authorizing the Commissioners of the several counties to subscribe for one copy of each of the leading newspapers of each political party printed in the county, and to have the same bound and preserved in the office of the Recorder.

The late David Corr, for many years a wholesale grocery merchant, of Cincinnati, has bequeath ed $15,000 for the purpose of erecting an asylum for indigent and unfortunate females. A worthy donation for a very worthy object.

Mr. Robert Peel has engaged a competent gentleman, at a yearly salary of £500, to give his tenants information on agricultural subjects, and superintend improvements on the estate.

SUPREME COURT ADJOURNMENT.—We see it stated that the United States Supreme Court have ordered an adjournment from the 1st of March to the first Monday of April. The session will then continue until the first of June. Hereafter printed arguments will be received during the first ten days of the session.

THE POST BOY.—Dr. Roger Long, the famous Astronomer, walking one dark evening with Mr. Bonfoy, in Cambridge, and the latter coming to a short post fixed in the pavement, which in the carnestness of conversation, he took to be a boy standing in his way, said hastily, 'get out of the way, boy!' 'That boy, sir,' said the Doctor, very coolly, 'is a post boy who never turns out of his way for any body!'

'I'm a done sucker,' as the child said when he was weaned.

'I'm sitting on the style, Mary,' as the chap said when he seated himself on a bonnet of the latest Paris fashion.

DR. MCLANE'S LIVER PILLS.—This great remedy for diseases of the Liver, is of much older date than its introduction to the public The existence of so many quack remedies, heralded as possessing the most marvelous qualities for healing all diseases, disgusted an accomplished and well educated physician, who seeing the public fall victims to the prevalent practice of sending a crowd of pretenders to the medical art, whose nostrums were paraded in every newspaper as sovereign remedies for all the ills that flesh is heir to. The representations of those to whom his Pills had given relief, however, and the urgent solicitations by physicians with whom he had associated in his practice, and who had witnessed the wonderful cures effected by his remedy, at length induced him to make it public.

For sale by J. KIDD & CO., No. 69, corner of Fourth and Wood st., Pittsburgh. (feb19-d&w1w8

Another Witness on the Stand.

CHRONIC RHEUMATISM.

MR. S. M. KIRK:—Allow me to express to you my heartfelt thanks for the great benefit I have received from an article called PETROLEUM, or Rock Oil, of which you are the sole proprietor. I had occasion to use it about the 1st of January, in a violent attack of Rheumatism, which was very painful, flying about from place to place, accompanied with much swelling, so as to keep me in constant torture. I used the Petroleum externally, a few applications of which removed all pain, and every symptom of the disease. I am now entirely well, and would take this occasion to recommend the Petroleum to all who may be suffering under the agonizing pains of Rheumatism or kindred diseases. [Signed] GIDEON WIGMAN,

near Perry House, Pittsburgh.

☞ See general advertisement in another column. feb19

Improvements in Dentistry.

DR. G. G. SCHERMERHORN, late of Boston, is prepared to manufacture and set BLOCK TEETH in whole and parts of sets, upon Suction or Atmospheric Suction Plates.—Operations in the mouth, where the roots are exposed. Office and residence next door to the Mayor's office, Fourth street, Pittsburgh.

Barns re—J. H. McFadden, R. H. Eaton. feb19

PREMIUM LEMON SYRUP.—Prepared by J. W. Kelly William street, N. Y., and for sale by A. Jaynes, No. 70 Fourth street. This will be found a delightful article of beverage in Hot Weather, and particularly for sick rooms.

BAKER'S BROMA.—An improved Chocolate preparation, being a combination of Cocoa nut, nutritious, invigorating and palatable, highly recommended particularly for invalids. Prepared by W. Baker, Dorchester, Mass., and for sale by A. JAYNES, at the Drug Store, No. 70 Fourth st

DR. D. HUNT, Dentist, Corner of Fourth and Decatur, between Market st. octl-d1m

American Hotel for Rent.

TO LET—The American Hotel, on Penn street, opposite the Canal Basin, from the 1st of April next. Apply at this office. feb16

IMPERIAL THREE PLY CARPETS—Just rec'd from the manufacturers, at very low prices, at feb22 W McCLINTOCK, 75 Fourth st

LIME & SUGAR—200 bbls Louisville Lime; 8 hhds N O Sugar; for sale by feb22-3t* A GORDON

DUFFIELDS WESTPHALIA HAMS—28 tierces of this celebrated brand, just rec'd and for sale by feb22 SELLERS & NICOLS

DRIED APPLES—50 bu in store and for sale by feb22 J & R FLOYD

DRIED PEACHES—50 bu in store and for sale by feb22 J & R FLOYD

SHAD & HERRINGS—For sale by feb22 R DALZ