THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

PUBLISHED BY WHITE & CO

PITTSBURGH:

FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 8, 1850.

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

CINCINNATI.—C. W. JAMES, No. 7 Terrace street, Cincinnati, is our agent for the city. Advertisement 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.

Whig State Central Committee.

☞ The members of the Whig State Central Committee are requested to assemble at Harrisburg, on the 12th of March inst. Punctual attendance is earnestly requested. M. McMICHAEL, Chairman.

GEO. H. HART, Sec'y.

Opening of the Canal—Spring Business.

Water is now being let into the canal, and we may expect a commencement of a regular business upon it, by next Monday. Our rivers are all in a fine state, so that there is no obstacle to a cheap, speedy, and large transportation business. Our transporting houses are all prepared to do a heavy business, and shippers need be under no apprehension of delays, or high prices.

We may now look for business generally to revive. The Eastern cities have been reaping a rich harvest, of late, and our turn, which is always a few weeks behind the East, will soon come. The Iron Mills are nearly all again in operation, and the remainder will be in a few days. All our other manufacturers are driving a brisk, and probably, with the exception of cotton, a profitable and successful business. We hope a better day will soon dawn upon the latter. Stocks of merchandize, and manufactured articles, are generally heavy, and prices favorable to the buyer.

There is one draw back to our prosperity—the want of capital and banking facilities. Money, which is almost a drug at the East, is very scarce here. This is a cause of much inconvenience and some sacrifices. Eastern capitalists could not find a better place in the country to invest their money to advantage. Money will most emphatically make money here. Almost any amount can be profitably invested here, on the soundest securities.

Much relief will, however, be felt, when our customers come in to pay off their bills, and all our Mills are again running full time. A large amount of money will also be expended on our Eastern and Western Railroads, the most of which will come from the East. We may look, therefore, for a sensible amelioration in the money market shortly.

The New Market House.

Our citizens are quite excited on this subject.—We are glad to see so much interest taken in it, and that there is a general disposition to put up a building which shall be an ornament to the city.—We would suggest, however, the propriety of offering a handsome sum for the best architectural design. A few hundred dollars spent in this way may save thousands in the construction of the buildings, and tens of thousands in future profit and utility.

The Braddock's Field Plank Road.

About twenty thousand dollars have been subscribed to the stock of this company—a good deal of it by persons seeking an investment. They will no doubt reap a rich reward. It is expected the remainder of the stock will be taken in a few days, and it is contemplated to commence work almost immediately, so as to open the road by next fall.—A double track is contemplated, as the business, it is believed, will require it.

The Wheeling Gazette makes very light of the accident to the Keystone State. It says the chimneys are too high and the machinery for lowering them not well constructed. These things, it says, ought to have been better attended to before the boat left port. This is adding insult to injury. The bridge has proved to be a dangerous obstruction, and a most intolerable nuisance, and will certainly have to *go up or down*. We expect to hear that the bridge, in the present flood has proved a total obstruction to our large boats, and put an entire stop for a season, to navigation.

HIGH WATERS.—Our rivers are now bank full, and the bottoms, in many places, are covered with water. The bottoms in Allegheny are partially inundated, and some inconvenience will be caused to the inhabitants. This is the highest rise of the season, and will bring down large quantities of lumber, produce, pig metal, &c.

FREE BANKING.—The eyes of the people are anxiously turned to the legislature, to see if there is any hope that our representatives will give us a Free Banking LAW. No act which they could pass would have so beneficent an effect upon the business and prosperity of the State. Such a measure is almost universally called for, and would be the most popular measure ever adopted in the State. Such has been the case in Ohio and New York, and why should not Pennsylvania reap the fruits of a system which has proved to be eminently safe and extensively useful? We earnestly call upon our members to use their utmost exertions to procure some legislation for this object.

GAS LIGHT.—The exorbitant prices now demanded for gas, in the eastern cities, has become a source of general complaint, and the consumers are endeavoring to procure other and cheaper modes of lighting their establishments. There is a prospect now of this being effected by means of a new discovery for making gas, which, for cheapness of cost and brilliancy of light, cannot be equalled. We hope to see the matter thoroughly tested, as the tax which we now pay for gas, in this city, is enormously heavy.

The following articles from the Baltimore Clipper, in reference to the new discovery, will be read with attention, and we hope some of our enterprising citizens will be induced to test its efficacy here. If gas can be manufactured at so low a cost as the Clipper states, it will, at an early day, be brought into general use: its high price at present deters many from adopting it.

BROWN'S HYDRO CARBON GAS.—Our new gas-ometer having just been completed, under the direction of Messrs. C. W. Bentley & Co., machinists, of this city, we were enabled to light up our entire office with this new and beautiful light on Wednesday evening last, and shall continue it hereafter. It is manufactured on the premises, by the most simple process, of rosin and water, and the density of it is such, that one thousand feet, which can be made with about one dollar's worth of material, are nearly equal to three thousand feet of coal gas. We consider the invention as really one of the greatest of this age of improvement, and have no doubt that the public will see the necessity of bringing it into more extensive use. Those who have examined this light have greatly admired its brilliancy, and expressed a desire to obtain it; we may therefore be induced to extend its benefits to some of our nearest neighbors. For cheapness, softness, and beauty, it cannot be excelled.

NEW WATER GAS.—Measures are now being taken to organize a gas company for supplying the new gas, called water gas, to that portion of Baltimore between the bridge and the Eutaw House, on Baltimore Street; thence to Pratt Street, and for such a distance as may be found most desirable. The company contemplate to furnish gas light, equal to the Baltimore Coal Gas Company, at about half the present cost, and anticipate large profits at that price. The gas is the same as has been used at the Clipper office, in this city, and at the National Hotel, in Washington city, for some time past; and, although it has been manufactured under incipient and disadvantageous circumstances, yet the low cost of this beautiful light is almost too low to meet with general credence.

It is proper to say that the article, signed "Justice," in reply to "Philandros," was written some days since, immediately after that dangerous article appeared in the Journal, but it was deemed prudent, on the part of the writer, to withhold it until the excitement in the community had somewhat subsided, as it was thought a discussion might add to the evil effects which the original publication had produced. Some other members of the bar contemplate writing on the subject, and the question of the Sheriff's rights are in a fair way of being better understood in the future. Every member of the bar we have conversed with applauds the conduct of Sheriff Curtis.

The application of Lieutenant Middleton, to be divorced from his wife, Edwardini, has been dismissed by the Pennsylvania Legislature.

A Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Patriot says:—"Mr. Calhoun, as I learn, will resign his seat, and return to his homestead in South Carolina, with a view to prepare himself to meet, in the bosom of his family, the crisis which his wining health seems to warn him is not far off."

Mr. Calhoun's Speech.

The speech of the great Southern leader is published at length in the Washington papers. It is a plain, unadorned argument, manifesting strong faith on the part of the Speaker in the principles and positions laid down, and a solemn sense of the importance of the crisis. The largest part of it is a reiteration, in milder language, of the Southern dissnion sentiment, with this difference—disunion is considered as an inevitable necessity, and not a blessing, as most of the Southern speakers have tried to persuade themselves it would be. The opening paragraphs are as follows:

I have, Senators, believed from the first that the agitation of the subject of slavery would, if not prevented by some timely and effective measure, end in disunion. Entertaining this opinion, I have, on all proper occasions, endeavored to call the attention of both of the two great parties which divide the country, to adopt some measure to prevent so great a disaster, but without success.—The agitation has been permitted to proceed, with almost no attempt to resist it, until it has reached a period when it can no longer be disguised or denied that the Union is in danger. You have thus had forced upon you the greatest and the gravest question that can ever come under your consideration—How can the Union be preserved?

To give a satisfactory answer to this mighty question, it is indispensable to have an accurate and thorough knowledge of the nature and the character of the cause by which the Union is endangered. Without such knowledge, it is impossible for a physician to pronounce in the case of some dangerous disease, with any certainty, by what remedy the patient could be saved, without similar knowledge of the nature and character of the cause of the disease. The first question, then, presented for consideration, in the investigation I propose to make, in order to obtain such knowledge, is—What is it that has endangered the Union?

To this question there can be but one answer; that the immediate cause is the almost universal discontent which pervades all the States composing the Southern section of the Union. This widening discontent is not of recent origin. It was commenced with the agitation of the slavery question, and has been increasing ever since. The next question, going one step further back, is—what has caused this widely diffused and almost universal discontent?

It is a great mistake to suppose, as is by some, that it originated with demagogues, who excited the discontent with the intention of aiding their personal advancement, or with the disappointed ambition of certain politicians, who resorted to it as the means of retrieving their fortunes. On the contrary, all the great political influences of the section were arrayed against the excitement, and exerted to the utmost to keep the people quiet. The great mass of the people of the South were divided, as in the other section, into Whigs and Democrats. The leaders and the presses of both parties in the South were very solicitous to prevent excitement, and to preserve quiet; because it was seen that the effects of the former would necessarily tend to weaken, if not destroy, the political ties which united them with their respective parties in the other section. Those who know the strength of party ties, will readily appreciate the immense force which this cause exerted against agitation, and in favor of preserving quiet. But, as great as it was, it was not sufficiently so to prevent the wide-spread discontent which now pervades the section. No; some which now pervades the section. No; some cause, far deeper and more powerful than the one supposed, must exist, to account for discontent so wide and deep. The question, then, recurs—what is the cause of this discontent? It will be found in the belief of the people of the Southern States, as prevalent as the discontent itself, that they cannot remain, as things now are, consistently with honor and safety, in the Union. The next question to be considered is—what has caused this belief.

The causes Mr. Calhoun resolves into two—one, the agitation of the question of Slavery in the North; the other and principal one, the destruction of the equilibrium between the North and South which existed at the adoption of the Constitution. This equilibrium, he says, has been destroyed, principally by the action of the Government. Having explained and illustrated these causes, he proceeds to show that the Union has been actually growing weaker for some years—one cord after another, social and ecclesiastical, has been severed, and the strongest cord of all, the political, which has held together the two great parties, is now nearly sundered. He then notices the plan of the President for settling the territorial question. He declares it to be but another modification of the Wilmot Proviso. The Compromise of Mr. Clay he passes over with the single remark, that it will not answer. The admission of California as a State he earnestly opposes—he denies that it is a State, and says that it ought to be remanded back to the territorial condition. The most interesting part of the speech is the conclusion, which is as follows:—

"Having now shown what cannot save the Union, I return to the question with which I commenced, How can the Union be saved? There is but one way by which it can, with any certainty, and that is, by a full and final settlement, on the principle of justice, of all the questions at issue between the two sections. The South asks for justice, simple justice, and less she ought not to take. She has no compromise to offer, but the Constitution; and no concession or surrender to make. She has already surrendered so much that she has little left to surrender. Such a settlement would go to the root of the evil, and remove all cause of discontent. By satisfying the South, she could remain honorably and safely in the Union, and thereby restore the harmony and fraternal feelings between the sections, which existed anterior to the Missouri agitation. Nothing else can, with any certainty, finally and forever settle the questions at issue, terminate agitation, and save the Union.

But can this be done? Yes, easily; not by the weaker party, for it can of itself do nothing—not even protect itself—but by the stronger. The North has only to will it to accomplish it—to do justice by conceding to the South an equal right in the acquired Territory, and to do her duty by causing the stipulations relative to fugitive slaves to be faithfully fulfilled—to cease the agitation of the slave question, and to provide for the insertion of a provision in the Constitution, by an amendment, which will restore to the South in substance the power she possessed of protecting herself, before the equilibrium between the sections was destroyed by the action of this Government. There will be no difficulty in devising such a provision. One that will protect the South, and which, at the same time, will improve and strengthen the Government, instead of impairing and weakening it.

But will the North agree to do this? It is for her to answer this question. But, I will say, she cannot refuse, if she has half the love of the Union which she professes to have, or without justly exposing herself to the charge that her love of power and aggrandizement is far greater than her love of the Union. At all events, the responsibility of saving the Union rests on the North, and not the South. The South cannot save it by any act of hers, and the North may save it without any sacrifice whatever, unless to do justice, and to perform her duties under the Constitution, should be regarded by her as a sacrifice.

It is time, Senators, that there should be an open and manly avowal on all sides, as to what is intended to be done. If the question is not now settled, it is uncertain whether it ever can hereafter be; and we, as the representatives of the States of this Union, regarded as governments, should come to a distinct understanding as to our respective views, in order to ascertain whether the great questions at issue can be settled or not. If you, who represent the stronger portion, cannot agree to settle them on the broad principle of justice and duty, say so; and let the States we both represent agree to separate and part in peace. If you are unwilling we should part in peace, tell us so, and we shall know what to do, when you reduce the question to submission or resistance.—If you remain silent, you will compel us to infer what you intend. In that case, California will become the test question. If you admit her, under all the difficulties that oppose her admission, you compel us to infer that you intend to exclude us from the whole of the acquired territories, with the intention of destroying irretrievably the equilibrium between the two sections. We would be blind not to perceive, in that case, that your real objects are power and aggrandizement, and infatuated not to act accordingly.

I have now, Senators, done my duty in expressing my opinions fully, freely, and candidly, on this solemn occasion. In doing so, I have been governed by the motives which have governed me in all the stages of the agitation of the slavery question from its commencement. I have exerted myself, during the whole period, to arrest it, with the intention of saving the Union, if it could be done; and if it could not, to save the section where it has pleased Providence to cast my lot, and which I sincerely believe has justice and the Constitution on its side. Having faithfully done my duty, to the best of my ability, both to the Union and my section, throughout this agitation, I shall have the consolation, let what will come, that I am free from all responsibility.

ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY.—By the last steamer, Lieut. Gillies, of the United States Navy, a distinguished astronomer, arrived in Chili, charged by the Government of the United States, with a scientific mission of the highest importance—namely, to ascertain the true distance of the earth from the sun—the computation of which has, until now, resulted only in serious mistakes. Various European *savans*, similarly commissioned with Lieut. Gillies, are about to occupy themselves with this work at different points of Europe and China. The Government of the United States has taken upon itself the part that belongs to America, and Chili has been selected, in South America, on account of its clear skies and natural topographical advantages. Mr. Gillies has received the instruments which he awaited; and, having joined the suite of gentlemen who are to accompany him, and who arrived at this port by the last vessel, has gone to Santiago, where he has met, on the part of the authorities and private citizens, the most frank and cordial co-operation. The hill of Santa Lucia, encircled by the streets of the capital, is the site chosen for the observatory, the occupation of which will not be delayed. We congratulate ourselves upon the preference shown to Chili by the United States Government, and upon the occasion of having in our midst such illustrious guests. We trust that they may find in its pure sky the revelations of science, and the enchantments of life in the cordiality of its inhabitants.—*Valparaiso Mercury*, Nov. 9.

For the Pittsburgh Gazette.

The Powers and Duties of the Sheriff.

A REPLY TO PHILANDROS.

MR. EDITOR.—An article, signed Philandros, appeared in the Journal of the 25th ult., commenting upon, and censuring the course of conduct Sheriff Curtis saw fit to pursue, on the occasion of the meeting and procession of the Puddlers and Boilers, a short time since. The Editor of the Journal has deemed this communication of sufficient importance to republish it, and since that time, another communication, from the same source, and on the same subject, has been published in the same paper. Of the authoritive and oracular style of these compositions, I shall say nothing. If Sheriff Curtis has committed an error, it is a grave one, and it is of importance to the whole community to fully understand with what authority the law clothes the Sheriff, and whether, in this instance, he stepped beyond the limits of his authority.

It is to be regretted that Philandros has not fully explained what he understands by "military" force. It might have saved his readers much trouble in clearly understanding his argument.—He cannot mean, a distinct body of men, separated from the people, under different regulations, governed by different laws, and punished in a different way, like the standing armies of Great Britain and the United States. He cannot mean this, for he says, with truth, that "our institutions in time of peace do not recognize a soldier in the land."—I take it for granted, and beyond dispute, that such "military" as Sheriff Curtis called out, were as much bound by, and as equally amenable to the law of the land, as any other citizens. The fact of their belonging to a volunteer company, and carrying that formidable bayonet, of which Philandros seems to stand in so much awe, could make no possible difference. They were citizens, and armed citizens. The question, then, is simply this. Has the Sheriff the right to use an armed force, in the execution of that authority which the law confers upon him?

The Sheriff has in his bailiwick the execution of the writs of the sovereign, (whether it be the King or Commonwealth,) and in addition is the conservator of the Peace. Although Philandros admits the power of the Sheriff to be thus two fold, yet he strangely confounds his two characters In the discharge of his duties, in both those characters, he has authority to raise the posse comitatus, or the powers of the county. In the execution of civil process, however, he has no power to exert this authority, until resistance is made; and Philandros appears to have fallen into the error, that he has no such authority in the other character, which is far from being the case. But Philandros says that the posse comitatus consists only of "*unarmed citizens.*" I would be glad to know upon what authority he undertakes to say, that it consists of unarmed citizens alone. I would like him to point to the statute or *case* which declares it to be such. Bacon, in his Abridgment, p. 169, vol. 6, says:—"By the common law, the Sheriff may raise the posse comitatus, or power of the county, that is, such a number of men as are necessary for his assistance in the the execution of the King's writs, quelling of riots, apprehending traitors, robbers, &c., and herein, every person above the age of fifteen, not aged or decrepid, is bound to the aiding, and if they refuse to assist, may be punished by fine and imprisonment." He has the power to raise "such force as is necessary for his assistance," even though it should be the whole county.

Can it be for a moment supposed, that a Sheriff would risk the safety and lives of his *posse* by proceeding with them wholly unarmed, against "traitors, rioters, and robbers, from whom he must expect the most determined resistance?" But, says Philandros, they "carry around them and with them the majesty of the law, not the bayonet." The law, I apprehend, is as majestic without a "*posse*" as with one. But the persons against whom the Sheriff proceeds, are men who have despised and insulted the "majesty of the law," and it is neither right nor justifiable, that the Sheriff should expose unarmed and defenceless citizens to the lawless violence of men who have already shown their disregard of all law and order. But we have not to depend on mere argument and reasoning to support this position. The point has been expressly decided in 1. Wm. Blackstone's Rep. p. 47, where it is said, that "*any subjects may arm themselves to quell riots, rebellions, &c.*" That "any subjects" may do this, without a warrant or an officer, and that they may band themselves together for this purpose. And in "Popham 121, 122, it is decided by all the Judges, "*that it is lawful for all the King's subjects to arm themselves, without any special commission for so doing, in order to suppress a riot or rebellion.*" Can any thing be stronger than this? If private persons may lawfully arm themselves, without warrant or commission, how much rather may the Sheriff do it, protected as he is by the authority of the law.

I trust that I have fully established that the Sheriff in the exercise of his authority in quelling riots, &c., has the power to call in to his assistance an armed force. Has he the power to do this, before any overt act is committed? Most undoubtedly, he has. Whenever he has good grounds for supposing that the public peace is about to be disturbed, he has the right—it is his duty, and it would be highly criminal in him to neglect it—to use the most effectual means to prevent such disturbance. It would be absurd to say that it only places this authority in his hands, after all other resistance has been overpowered. If this were true, the life and property of no man would be safe. By a proper display of force, at first, there are few mobs or riots which may not be checked in their commencement. But suffer them to proceed until the passions of the rioters are fully aroused, until they have gathered strength, until they are emboldened by success, then indeed it becomes impossible to suppress them, without resorting to the most desperate measures, often followed by the most fearful consequences The law is to be vindicated at all hazards. The Sheriff, as Conservator of the Peace, has the right to exert for prevention and suppression of disturbances, so much force as is necessary to preserve the peace. He is the supreme ministerial officer in the county. To keep the Peace, he has the whole power of the County in his hands, whether to be used in preventing disturbances, or suppressing them. So long as he interferes with the rights of no one, he has the unquestionable right to use such means as he deems necessary, and I am at a loss to understand how a matter so plain could be doubted. In England the question has been decided over and over again, and the power has been extended by Statute to Justices of the Peace. Even private persons there, have a right to assemble an armed force in their dwellings, when they have reason to apprehend an attack from rioters.

I firmly believe that Sheriff Curtis acted wisely in this timely display of power, for which he has been so much censured. That no disturbance of the peace took place, by no means proves that there was no danger of a disturbance. He has pursued the course which has always been pursued in our large cities, in Philadelphia and New York, where, it is to be presumed, if there is any thing illegal in it, there is sufficient legal learning and ability to have discovered it long before this. Philandros thinks that a display of armed force has a tendency to induce men to commit breaches of the peace. With the same propriety he might say that the sight of our jails and penitentiaries have a tendency to induce men to commit robberies. Violators of the law are not made of such inflammable stuff. Experience has long since proved that men set about the perpetration of crimes much more readily when the resistance is feeble, than when the resistance is strong. It is a good plan always to take the safe course, and that such was the course of Sheriff Curtis, I am fully convinced.

JUSTICE.

For the Pittsburgh Gazette.

The New Market House.

MR. EDITOR.—I am happy to perceive that the Councils of our city have resolved to supply the present site of the "Market House," in the "Diamond," with something more suitable to the occasion and the wants of the community. Every thing on the premises should be leveled to the ground, "Old Court House" and all, and a structure made to supply the place worthy of the location and of the wealth and enterprise of our flourishing city. The structure should be ornamental as well as useful, its commanding position demands it, and I venture to say none of our citizens would begrudge a greater or less amount in the outlay, in order to have some thing somewhat creditable to architectural taste; at all events, something that would not be offensive to our pride as Pittsburghers.

It is to be hoped the open sheds, such as now disgrace the Diamond, will find no advocates; nothing could be more absurd, in such a climate as ours. Let proper houses be built, which will afford a protection from the weather, affording a degree of warmth in winter, and ample ventilation in summer; it might be made two or three stories in height, and each subservient to the important purpose for which constructed; and when once finished, it is to be hoped, in its management there will be evinced proper regard to the decencies and proprieties of life, and not have the carcasses of animals throughout the day and throughout the year, exposed dangling from the awning posts, &c., offensive to the sight, not to say nostril, of those whose business requires the use of this great thoroughfare. D.

For the Pittsburgh Gazette.

The New Market House.

MR. WHITE.—I have read, with much pleasure, the communication of "Metropolis," in your paper of this morning, and approve of his plans, *so far as they go*, but yet should proceed a little *farther*.

A museum of Pittsburgh manufactures would be interesting to our own citizens, and to strangers visiting our city—besides it would be useful to our manufacturers, a convenience to buyers, and could be made to pay a fair revenue or rent for the room occupied.

Make the building *three* stories high, instead of two—appropriate the chambers of one for Town Hall, Council Rooms, and officers, and of the other for the museum.

Induce our manufacturers to associate for the purpose of carrying out the plan, and let them here deposit samples of their manufactures, in all their variety, with models, machinery, and any and every thing produced or manufactured for sale. The space occupied by each to be paid for at just and fair rates of rent, and shelves, tables, &c., to be used by a general plan of exhibition and advertisement. Each would have his name and place of business distinctly marked with prices, if so desired.

The strangers visiting our city for goods would thus resort to the museum for information, and his business would be facilitated. He would learn more in an hour, than by the ordinary facilities in one day, and by this means his purchases might be much extended—though looking for one or half dozen articles wanted, he would see others not before thought of, and his trade might be double.

The association might pay a fair rent to the city, and remunerate themselves by the rents or taxes charged to individuals—admission free to subscribers and to those introduced by them, but to citizens and strangers, a fee sufficient to cover all current expenses—these are my suggestions, which please take for what they are worth.

Yours, &c. Q.

March 7, 1850.

FROM HARRISBURGH.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

HARRISBURGH, March 4, 1850.

In the Senate to day, Mr. Darsie presented a petition, and also read a bill in place, to authorize the extension of Hancock street in the city of Pittsburgh. The same gentleman also read in his place, a supplement to an act, for the better regulation of the Police in the city of Philadelphia, and adjacent Districts, and extending the provisions of the fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth sections of said act to the County of Allegheny. You will find the act to which this is a supplement in the volume of laws passed at the session of 1845. It may be well for you to refer to it. The substance of it is, however, I believe, that the sheriff is empowered, in cases of riot, after exhausting the civil power, to make requisition upon the commanding officer of any military brigade, regiment, battalion or company within said city of Philadelphia, for the suppression of the same, under the rules and regulations prescribed.

Mr. Darsie also read in his place a further supplement to an act regulating Turnpike and Plank Road Companies, passed the 26th day of January, 1849. The first section provides, that whenever a vacancy shall occur in any of these companies either by death or resignation, the board of managers of such company, shall supply said vacancy by appointment, at a special meeting of the board to be called for that purpose, of which due notice shall be given, and that such appointment shall continue until the next succeeding annual election. The second section provides that the board of managers of any such Company may hereafter require the Treasurer or any other officer of the company to give bond, with one or more sureties, for the faithful performance of the duties of the office to which he may have been elected or appointed. The third section provides that all Plank Road Companies incorporated under the provisions of the act to which this is a supplement, shall have power to regulate their tolls without reference to the breadth of tires of the wheels of vehicles passing over the same.

BILLS PASSED.

On motion of Mr. Darsie, the Senate took up and passed the bill to authorize the State Treasurer to cancel and destroy certain mutilated relief notes of the issue of 1819.

On motion of Mr. Drum, the Senate resumed the consideration of the bill reported by him some days ago, and the substance of which I sent you in a former communication entitled "a supplement to an act concerning divorces," which was amended by providing in substance, that no bill or petition shall be filed in any such case, until after the expiration of six months from the time the alleged desertion shall have taken place. After some further discussion, the bill was finally passed, almost unanimously, only four Senators voting in the negative.

On motion of Mr. Bing, the bill for the relief of the Seventh day Baptists was taken up, and after a long and very general debate, in which most of the talking Senators took part, was finally passed; yeas 18, nays 13.

In the house, Mr. Espy, of Allegheny, presented a petition for the new county of Youghiogheny.—Mr. E. also read in his place a bill entitled an act to incorporate the West Branch Saw Mill Run Improvement and Coal Company.

Mr. Walker presented two petitions from citizens of Allegheny, asking that Duplop's temperance bill may be enacted into a law. Mr. W. also offered a resolution, instructing the Committee of Ways and Means to inquire into the expediency of providing means for the State Geologist's Report, which was adopted.

After the reading of petitions and reports of Standing Committees, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, Mr. Roberts in the Chair, and proceeded to the consideration of the Appropriation Bill, which was the special order of the day. After the bill was gone through with in Committee, it was taken up on second reading, when various important amendments were proposed by the Whigs, and uniformly voted down by the Locofoco majority. This is the bill reported by the majority of course. It is thought now, that the Whigs in the House will make but little resistance, reserving themselves for the battle in the Senate, where the question must eventually be settled. COBDEN.

THE GAINES CASE DECISION.

JUDGE MCKINLEY DISAGREEING.—We give the following more particular account of the decision in this great case, from the New Orleans Crescent, of 23d ult.

United States Circuit Court.—Myra Gaines vs Relf and Chew.—Yesterday morning the decree of the court was rendered, dismissing the bill of the complainant. Judge McKinley (as U. S. Supreme Court Judge) remarked that he felt himself bound by the decision in the case of Gaines v Patterson. It had been said that was a made up case; but the evidence of that case had been offered in this, and he saw no reason to change his opinion. But he differed from his brother, and he thought it best for all parties that a judgment should be rendered by the Louisiana Judge. He should therefore withdraw from the bench while the opinion of the court was delivered. He ordered the clerk to enter on the minutes, that the decision of the court was rendered in his absence, and left the bench.

Judge McCalch then read a long and elaborate opinion. He decided: First, that there was no proof of the marriage of Zulime Carriere with Daniel Clark. Second, that the marriage (if ever celebrated) was secret, and under the Spanish law, did not create any rights for the wife or her offspring. Third, that the complainant was born in 1801, and became of age in 1825, and the prescription often years was mature before the institution of her suit. The opinion is handsomely written, showing much research and legal ability. As journalists, and coming within the scope of our duties, we may add that the opinion is generally acquiesced in by the profession. The case of course goes to the Supreme Court.

A Paris correspondent of the Washington Republic says that the largest amount of silver in the world is at the present time on deposit at the Bank of France, viz: four hundred and sixty millions of francs, or ninety two millions of dollars. The circulation of the Bank is now four hundred and eighty millions of francs.

The mail from the South, on the way to Boston on Saturday, was robbed of all the letters for Boston. The door of the car is said to have been left unlocked.

Sayings of Poor Richard.

By Dr. Franklin.

Light purse, heavy heart.
He's a fool, that makes his doctor his heir.
He'er take a wife, till thou hast a house (and a fire) to put her in.
To lengthen thy life, lessen thy meals.
The proof of gold is fire, the proof of woman, gold—the proof of man—woman.
He that lies down with dogs, shall rise up with fleas.
Men and melons are hard to know.
He's the best Physician who knows the worthlessness of the most medicines.
Many dishes, many diseases.
Would you live with ease, do what you ought, and not what you please.
Where there's marriage without love, there will be love without marriage.
The magistrate should obey the laws, the people should obey the magistrate.
God sends meat (they say,) the devil cooks.
The poor man must walk to get meat for his stomach, the rich man to get a stomach to his meat.
Three may keep a secret, if two of them are dead.
Are you angry that others disappoint you, remember you cannot depend upon yourself.

PHILADELPHIA HOUSE OF REFUGE.—The twenty third Annual Report to the Legislature of the Board of Directors in this institution, states that in the department for white children the average number of male inmates, for the year 1849, has been 171, and of females 42—being a total of 216, and a number far exceeding that of any previous year. A table of commitments of boys and girls during the years from 1829 to 1849, inclusive, shows that the annual commitments of boys during that period has steadily increased from 3 in 1828 to 139 in 1849, while those of girls remain nearly stationary, as regards the average. The average age of the boys was 13¾, or thereabouts, while that of the girls was a little over 14 years.

The manufacture of razor strops, cane seat chairs, and umbrella furniture and book binding has been pursued during the year, and the earnings of the boys amount to $6,356,54. Deducting these earnings from the expenses of maintaining the White Department during the year—$14,274,53 as stated in the Report—and the net expense will be found to be $7,897,99, or $36,58 per inmate for the average number during the year.

The Report states that the librarian have received an addition of more than 600 well selected volumes during the year, the gifts of citizens of Philadelphia. A philanthropic individual has also presented the sum of $100, to be invested as a permanent fund, the interest of which is to be applied to the purchase of medals, and other presents for well behaved children.

The extracts of letters from persons to whom boys and girls have been indentured, speak in very favorable terms generally of their good conduct.

During the year a department for colored children has been opened, which is represented to be in a flourishing condition.

THE PARKMAN AFFAIR.—One of the Boston papers, of the lower order, made an immense flourish yesterday, with the issue of a bulletin announcing a wondrous discovery, which, according to its account, threw the whole city into an intense excitement; said excitement raging principally, we presume, among the venders of said 6th edition, as is usual in such cases. The discovery was of a dead body, in the water, near Rainbury, which was immediately declared, by somebody, to be that of Dr. Parkman. It does not appear from the published account, that there is any valid reason whatever for the supposition.—*New York Com. Adv.*

There was not only no valid reason, but there was no reason at all for believing the body to be that of Dr. Parkman; and no one in fact did so believe. It surprises us here that respectable papers in N. York should countenance such obvious impositions upon the public, by giving currency to reports which they might easily see are not sustained by any creditable testimony.—*Boston Traveller.*

THE HAMMER.—The following appropriate panegyric on this primitive instrument, which was the first invention in mechanics, and perhaps, also, the first in war, is taken from the Scientific American:—

The hammer is the universal emblem of mechanics. With it are alike forged the sword of contention and the ploughshare of peaceful agriculture—the press of the free and the shackles of the slave. The eloquence of the forum has moved the armies of Greece and Rome to a thousand battle fields, but the eloquence of the hammer has covered those fields with victory or defeat. The inspiration of song has kindled high hopes and noble aspirations in the bosoms of brave knights and gentle dames, but the inspiration of the hammer has strewn the field with tattered rainbows, and decided not only the fate of invincible combat, but the fate of thrones, crowns, and kingdoms. The forging of a thunderbolt was ascribed by the Greeks as the highest act of Jove's omnipotence, and their mythology beautifully ascribes to one of their gods the task of presiding at the labors of the forge. In ancient warfare the hammer was a powerful weapon, independent of the blade which it formed. Many a stout skull was broken through the mail and helmet by a blow of Vulcan's weapon. The armies of the Crescent would have subdued Europe to the sway of Mahomet, but on the plains of France their progress was arrested, and the brave and simple warrior who saved Christendom from the sway of the Mussulman was Martel—"the hammer." The hammer, the savior and bulwark of Christendom. The hammer is the wealth of nations. By it are forged the powerful ocean engine and the tiny needle. It is an instrument of the savage and the civilized. Its merry clinks point out the abode of industry. It is a domestic deity, pres ding over the grandeur of the most wealthy and ambitious, as well as the most humble and unprovided. Not a stick is shaped, nor a house is raised; a ship floats, a carriage rolls, a wheel spins, an engine moves, a press speaks, a viol sings, a spade delves, or a fire waves, without the hammer. Without the hammer civilization would be unknown, and the human species only as defenceless brutes; but in skilful hands, directed by wisdom, it is an instrument of power, of greatness, and true glory.

TREATY WITH AUSTRIA.—The treaty with Austria, which was concluded in 1848, by Messrs. Buchenan and Hulseman, has been ratified, and is published in the *Washington Republic*. The treaty mutually extends to all descriptions of property the exemption from taxes, and charges heretofore secured to personal property.

A Mr. Denman, who edits a weekly newspaper in New York city, called the 'Truth Teller,' was committed in the st., on Saturday, by Mr. David Leavett, President of the American Exchange Bank. The cause of Mr. Leavett's indignation, was some remarks upon his character, in the newspaper aforesaid.

LOGAN, WILSON & CO.,

129 WOOD STREET, ABOVE FIFTH.

IMPORTERS OF HARDWARE, CUTLERY, &c.

Ask the attention of purchasers to their

FRESH SPRING STOCK,

Which they think will compare favorably, both in extent and cheapness, with that of any other house, either here or in the Eastern Cities.

feb26 dawly

☞ LIVER PILLS.—These Pills, discovered by Dr McLane, and which bear his name, are now first used in his own practice. In a few years they attracted the attention of other physicians, and thence passed into general use. For curing all diseases of the Liver, they act with certainty and regularity. The patient soon feels the removal of disease, unless he is well. The effect is almost magical; and after swallowing drugs and medicines of another description, he suffers little himself relieved at once. Diseases of the Liver are very common in this country, and are as frightful in character as they are frequent in occurance. Are you troubled with any of the numerous complaints which originate in a diseased state of the Liver? Purchase Dr. McLane's Pills, and be relieved at once.

For sale by J. KIDD & CO., No. 69, corner of Fourth and Wood sts Pittsburgh. [mr2-dawlw3

Another Witness on the Stand.

CHRONIC RHEUMATISM.

SIR, 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 live 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 torment. 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 WILSON.

near Perry House, Pittsburgh.

☞ See general advertisement in another column.

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Improvements in Dentistry.

DR. G. C. 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.

REFER TO—J. H. M'Fadden, F. H. Eaton. ja19

FRENCH LEMON SUGAR.—Prepared by J. W. Kelly William street, N. Y., and for sale by A. Jeynes, No. 70 Fourth street. This will be found a delightful article of beverage in families, and particularly for sick rooms.

BAKER'S BROMA.—An improved Chocolate preparation, being a combination of Cocoa nut, innocent, invigorating and palatable, highly recommended particularly for invalids. Prepared by W. Baker, Dorchester, Mass., and for sale by A. JAYNES, at the Pekin Tea Store, No. 70 Fourth st mch14

DR. D. HUNT,
Dentist, Corner of Fourth and Decatur, between
Market sts oct1-dlyin

MARRIED,

On Thursday morning, 7th inst., by Rev. Mr. Passavant, Mr. WM. MEARS, to Miss MARY B., daughter of Florence Cotter, Esq., all of this city.

SHACKLETT & WHITE,

DRY GOODS JOBBERS, NO. 101 WOOD STREET,

HAVE in store, and will be constantly receiving, during the season, a large and well-selected assortment of Staple and Fancy Dry Goods, which they will sell for cash or approved credit.

Western Merchants are invited to examine our stock. mr9

McILVAIN & WILLIAMS,

NO. 10 GERMAN STREET, BALTIMORE,

AGENTS for the sale of SODA ASH & BLEACHING POWDERS, have now in store, and will continue to receive, full supplies of the following well known brands. "Sheppards," "Pennsia," and "Jarrow," which they offer for sale at market rates.

mr9-d2w

A. A. MASON & CO., PITTSBURGH.	C. L. ANTHONY & CO. NEW YORK.

WHOLESALE DRY GOODS!

A. A. MASON & CO.,

No. 60 MARKET STREET, PITTSBURGH,

WOULD respectfully call the attention of City and Country Merchants to their extensive STOCK, comprising probably the largest and most varied assortment of Foreign and Domestic Goods ever exhibited in this market