The Daily Morning Post.

JOHN BIGLER, EDITOR.

PITTSBURGH, MONDAY, DECEMBER 15.

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—IRON STEAMERS.—The message of the President strongly recommends that liberal appropriations be made for the construction of iron war steamers, in the interior of the country. The President says:

"The use of iron as a material, especially in the construction of steamers which can enter with safety many of the harbors along our coast now inaccessible to vessels of greater draught, *and the practicability of constructing them in the interior, strongly recommends that liberal appropriations be made for that object.*"

This, we believe, is the only point in the interior of the country, at which iron steamers have been constructed for the government, and we therefore, presume, that the President refers to Pittsburgh especially, when he speaks of the "practicability of constructing them in the interior." Congress, we think, will, in accordance with the recommendation of the President, make "liberal appropriations" for the building of iron war steamers. We have already been much benefited from the construction of government vessels, and if the recommendations of the President are carried out by Congress, it must add greatly to the amount of business done in this city. We now build and furnish annually a great number of steamers of every size; if to this is added the construction of iron war steamers, Pittsburgh, though hundreds of miles from the ocean, will present much more the appearance of a great commercial port on the sea board, than an interior city.

Oregon, War and other Matters.

The correspondent of the *Journal of Commerce* says: "It is believed here,—whatever may be the opinion in New York,—that Great Britain has received the best offer for the adjustment of this dispute that she ever will receive. That offer, which was so abruptly—not to say rudely,—rejected by the British minister, was urged upon the acceptance of the British government, as I have reason to believe, by Mr. McLane, and urged in vain. Mr. Packenham did not, therefore, exceed his instructions in that hasty rejection.

Mr. McLane's letter to his son,—a member of the Maryland Legislature,—which was talked of here, at the time, doubtless alluded to the rejection of this offer, and, therefore, Mr. McLane had come to the conclusion that "War is inevitable, unless the United States recede from their position."

Those who think that Great Britain will send another minister and humbly apologize for rejecting our offer, and solicit a chance to accept it, are as much deceived as are those who believe that the Senate, or the administration, or the people of the U. States, will ever accede to that British offer of compromise which Mr Calhoun "very properly rejected the same day that it was offered."

The N. Y Globe correspondent says: "The Whig Editors of your city, (New York,) who are determined by the aid of the *Mercury*, to place Mr Calhoun antagonistic to the President on the subject of Oregon *nolens volens*, will very probable find themselves mistaken. Mr McDuffie will back the President to the death on that question, and a grand majority of the American people are in favor of that measure as well as putting a stopper on future European colonizing in the New World it is hardly to be supposed that Mr Calhoun will follow tardily, the Genius of Progression and Liberty!

There is strongly concentrating and concentrating spirit of union on this subject, for mighty it is, and the great American Republic of the North having fairly opened its eyes to its rights, capacities and avenues of greatness, will not close them again until Foreign domination is banished forever from our shores.—The spirit of Monarchy and Democracy is entirely at variance, and there can be no mingling of the two.—Great Britain and France can very safely make their inroads among the islands of the Ocean, or the crumbling governments of Africa and Asia, where the people are shrouded in ignorance and superstition, but on the soil of Columbia, where knowledge has lighted up each valley, forest, and mountain top, the progress of despotism must and *will* cease. Even the Canadas, catching the spirit of Liberty, cannot long remain enthralled, but will burst the shackels which now confine them, and enter the grand confederacy. The coalguity of Democracy, with the evident superiority of its principles and policy, and its healthy progression which alone develops the prime attributes of man, will affect this eventually, as sure as the sun rolls in heaven.

"Enlarge the boundaries of Freedom" was one of our rallying phrases during the last Presidential canvass,—it was inscribed on our banners, and floated in every breeze all over the land. The Whig party affected to be horrified by such an aggrandizing disposition; and joined issue with us. Well, we drubbed them to their heart's content, we practiced what we professed, we have thrown the Ægis of protection over Texas, and now the leaders of this *retrogressive* party always in the back ground, admit that they were *behind* the spirit of the age, and we *with* it. Will they go with us now on the Oregon question, and share with us the popularity and glory of that measure, or after we have consummated it, will they *again* by their confession show, how little they regarded the rights, privileges and immunities of the masses?"

ACCIDENT ON THE BOSTON AND MAINE RAILROAD.—The train of cars which left the city at 2½ o'clock on Saturday afternoon, for Portland, says the Boston Traveler, came in collision with a sleigh, at about half-past 5 o'lock, at the crossing of what is called the old meeting-house road in Newmarket.—The sleigh contained four persons, Mr John Hayden of Newfield, his wife, child and sister. The engine struck the sleigh with great force, disengaged the horse from it and shattered it to pieces. The baggage car was thrown off the track by the collision.

Mr H. jumped out of the sleigh and escaped uninjured. His wife and child were both run over by the cars and killed instantly, the child's head being actually severed from its body. The sister was also somewhat, but not materially, injured. We we have not ascertained the circumstances under which the sleigh was crossing the track, nor whether any blame is attached to the engineer. The bell of the engine, it is said was duly rung, and the whistle sounded.

A LARGE CLAIM.—The correspondent of the Philadelphia North American states that the heirs of the late Joseph Richardson of that city, are about to institute suit to recover some twenty acres of land, among the most valuable in Philadelphia, lying in the very heart of the city. It is said the Shoemakers, of Philadelphia, and the heirs of Mr Richardson, and of Mr Aubrey and Joshua Jones of Baltimore, are the direct descendants of Mr. Joseph Richardson, and that it is in their name this suit is about to be instituted.

GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.—The annual election of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania took place at the Masonic Hall, south Third st., on Monday evening. The following gentlemen were elected officers for the ensuing Masonic year, commencing on St John the Evangelist's day, Dec 27th.

Grand Master—Jas Page, in place of Wm Barger, who declined a re election.

Deputy Grand Master—Peter Fritz.

Senior " Warden—Wm Wintney.

Junior " " Anthony Bourtenville, M D

Grand Treasury—John Thompson.

Grand Secretary—Wm H Adams.

Trustees on the Girard Bequest—Bays Newcomb, Samuel Badger, Samuel H Perkins, Alex Diamond, Enos S Candy.

GREAT MEETING FOR THE RELIEF OF IRELAND.—An immense meeting, to devise means for the relief of Ireland, was held at the Odeon, Boston, on the evening of the 8th inst. The house, says the Post, was crowded to the galleries. Thomas Money, the historian, was appointed chairman, and Stephen J Rogers secretary. Addresses were delivered by the Rev Messrs O'Flaherty and O'Riely and Isaac H. Wright, Esq. Mr O'Flaherty laid on the table $79 collected in his congregation at Salem. Mr Wright proposed a series of resolutions explanatory of the causes of the present distressing condition of the Irish peasantry, and they were adopted. The collections were then commenced, and six hundred and thirty dollars were paid down before the audience. A few minutes after the wardens had spread throughout the house, a gentleman of that city requested that it might be announced that if $500 should be raised within a fortnight, he would contribute $25 to the fund. In less than half an hour after the announcement was made more than $500 had been piled upon the table.

ANNEXATION OF CANADA TO THE UNITED STATES.—Annexations being all the rage, since the addition of Texas to this Union, we are called upon to add another to the list. By the last Toronto Examiner, we learn that a project is now on foot to annex Canada to the United States by means of a suspension bridge across the Niagara. It is estimated that the cost will be about $120,000, and large meetings have been held on both sides of the line, for the purpose of carrying the project into effect.

THE MURDERERS OF PARKER.—The greatest excitement prevails at Manchester, N. H., in consequence of the supposed discovery of the murderers of Parker, who, it will be recollected, was inhumanly butchered in that town nearly a year since. It is likely to turn out that several were engaged in that murder, and that the individuals implicated have since been residing in the midst of the community, and that some of them are relatives of Parker, the murdered man. It is thought that some of them may turn State's evidence.

FIRE AT ALBANY.—On Saturday night a block of buildings in North Lansing street, Albany, owned by Jellis Winne, were all either destroyed or greatly injured. The tenants principally suffering were Darius Tallman, grocer; J S Neville, grocery and dwelling; P Welch, merchant tailor and dwelling; Dr A Lyons, drug store and dwelling; J S Van Buren; C Whitney, sadlery and harness; W Sweeny, tailor.—Mr Winne was partially insured.

Mississippi against the world.—A lady in Marion county has given birth to eight children, four pair of twins, the eldest of which are not yet four years of age, to wit: twins in '42, '43, '44 '45—six girls and two boys—all living, and in a perfect state of salubrity.

THE OREGON NEGOTIATION.—The Union, of Saturday, contradicts the statement of the National Intelligencer respecting the removal to London of the Oregon negotiation.

VERY LATE FROM CALIFORNIA.—The New York Sun has private advices from Monterey, (Upper California,) to the middle of October last, received on Monday. The intelligence is important. A British fleet destined for Oregon was passing up the west coast, of which the correspondent of the Sun at Monterey says:

"The pioneer of this fleet, the British ship of war "America," touched here some time ago, and the movements of her commander, Capt. Gordon, aroused our suspicion at the time. He refused to give any news, saying, "men of war do not carry news." He also refused to carry a circular letter to the United States Indian Agent at Oregon City, remarking that he was not sure of going to Columbia River. I have ascertained that Lord Aberdeen, the British Secretary for Foreign Affairs, had a brother on board the American, and one of Sir Robert Peel's sons was also an officer or a passenger. We were all glad that these distinguished visitors had every facility extended to them for collecting facts in this vicinity. They can give their illustrious relatives an interesting account of California. At San Francisco, they found every well to do house owned by Yankees. "O—n, it," said one of the officers, "is there nothing but Yankees here?" They had the satisfaction of hearing direct from several over the mountain travellers, of the many hundred wagons on the road for Oregon and California, as well as to the excellent facilities for travelling between the States and this coast."

The Governor had the militia called out to resist an expected invasion from the U. States squadron, and the soldiers, ready to run at the first shot were grain-fed with the fruits. Foreigners of all nations are rapidly pouring in. Americans are pouring into the country from Oregon and the States. The British merchant schooner "Star of the West," from Liverpool, with a cargo valued at £30,000 sterling, was lost near the entrance to the harbor of Monterey on the 27th July. The goods saved and sold fetched only $3,000 at auction. The tax of $30 on whale ships has been taken off by the authorities of California.

THE MORMONS AND MRS. SMITH.—The widow of the Mormon prophet, in a letter to the New York Sun, denies that she is going to California, or any other place with the Mormons. She says she is very well satisfied with the United States and means to remain in Nauvoo to take care of her property and if she cannot educate her children there she will send them to New York; she is favorable to having a mixed society at Nauvoo, and to the abolition of all exclusive religious distinction. She adds:

"I must now say, that I never for a moment believed in what my husband called his apparitions and revelations, as I thought him laboring under a diseased mind; yet they may all be true, as a prophet is seldom without credence or honor, excepting in his own family or country, but as my conviction is to the contrary, I shall educate my children in a different faith and teach them to obey and reverence the laws and institutions of their country.

I am left here, sir, with a family of children to attend to, without any means of giving them an education, for *there is not a school in the city*, nor is it intended that there shall be any here, or at any other place, where the men who now govern this infatuated, simple-minded people, have sway. I have not the least objection that these petty tyrants remove to California, or any other remote place, out of the world, if they wish, for they will never be of any service to the Mormons, or to the human family, wherever they go.—Their object is to keep the people over whom they rule in the greatest ignorance and most abject religious bondage, and if these poor, confiding creatures remove with them they will die in the wilderness."

[COMMUNICATED.]

The Erie Observer, Venango Democratic Arch, Clarion Democrat, Jeffersonian at Brookville, and Democratic Banner—are all out in favor of General Levi G. Clover, of Jefferson Co., as the candidate of the great Democratic party of the Northwestern Territory, for Canal Commissioner. The Banner says, "We go for the General with right good will—and certainly the claims of this portion of the State, all not be disregarded—it is the first time they have brought forward one of their own men."

We say, "Give us your hand"—the General is a clever fellow, and if elected, from his long experience as a public officer, would make a most excellent Commissioner.

☞ Major EDWARD A. REYNOLDS, of Crawford County is strongly recommended by a correspondent in the Crawford Democrat, as gentleman well qualified for the office of Canal Commissioner.

WARD MEETINGS.

FIRST WARD.

At a large and respectable meeting of the democratic citizens of the 1st Ward of the city of Pittsburgh, held at the house of Jas Little, on Saturday evening, the 13th inst, for the purpose of electing delegates to meet in convention on Tuesday next, the 16th, to nominate a suitable person for Mayor of this city of Pittsburgh.

On motion, Jas Patterson, jr. was called to the chair, and Wm C Meridith and Michael Kane, appointed Sec'ys.

The following gentlemen were then elected delegates:

Wm C Meridith, John Taggart, Michael Kane, Francis Nicholson, S G Robinson.

Resolved, That the delegates be instructed to support Dr Wm Kerr for Mayor.

Resolved, That this meeting pledge themselves to support Dr Wm Kerr for Mayor at the ensuing election.

JAS PATTERSON, jr, Pres't.

M KANE, jr. } Sec'ys.
WM C MERIDETH. }

SECOND WARD.

The following named gentlemen were appointed delegates to the Convention, to be held on Tuesday next:

John Anderson, John Smith, Thomas M'Kown, Wm Bryant and J W Bausman.

THIRD WARD.

Pursuant to notice the Democratic citizens of the Third Ward, met at the house of Joseph Duball, on Saturday evening the 13th inst, for the election of delegates to place in nomination a suitable candidate for the office of Mayor.

The meeting was organized by calling WM M LINGAN to the chair, and appointing *Wm C M'Carthy* and *John Coyle* Secretaries. The meeting was called to order, and proceeded to marking—which resulted in the election of John R Hague, Thomas Phillips, Patrick Quinn, John Savage and John Magee, as delegates favorable to the nomination of Dr Wm. Kerr.

On motion of Capt Robert Porter, adjourned to meet on Saturday evening next, at same place, for the purpose of nominating Ward officers.

WM. M. EDGAR, Ch'm.

WM. C. M'CARTHY. } Secretaries.
JOHN COYLE. }

FOURTH WARD.

At the meeting at the Washington Hotel, on Saturday evening, the 13th inst. The following persons were duly elected for the following offices.

For Delegate to the City Convention.—James R Kerr James Lindsay, Jacob Lauman, Henry Kennedy, Samuel Jones.

Select Council.—James Beany.

Common Council.—Dr. David Reynolds, John Holmes, John Turbett, George R White, James Watson.

School Director.—Samuel McClurkan, James Cooper, John Anderson.

Inspector of Elections.—Saml Jones.

Judges of Elections.—Joseph O'Brien:

Assessor.—L G Robinson.

Assistant Assessors.—Steph Boyce James D Verner.

Constable.—John Herron.

JOSEPH WATT, Chairman.

LEE ROBINSON. } Secretaries.
JAMES WATSON. }

FIFTH WARD DELEGATE ELECTION.

Pursuant to notice the Democrats of the 5th Ward met at the Public School House, on Fifth street, on Saturday evening the 13th inst., to elect delegates to the city Convention to be held on the 16th. The meeting was organized by appointing JAMES BLAKELY, Esq., Chairman, and WM *J Askrim* and *J As Taylor*, Secretaries. The object of the meeting being stated from the chair, Mr John Taylor rose and offered the following Resolutions, which were unanimously adopted by the meeting.

Resolved, That the delegates elected by this meeting be and they are hereby instructed to vote for the nomination of Andrew M'Elwaine, for the office of Mayor and to use all proper efforts to procure his nomination by the city Convention, on Tuesday next.

Resolved, That in assuming to use fellow citizens the name of Mr M'Elwaine, for the Chief Magistrate of our city, we know that we are offering to them a candidate whose intelligence, energy of character, social virtues and sound democratic principles eminently qualified to discharge the important duties of that high trust.

Resolved, That while we pledge ourselves to support the nominee of the city Democratic Convention, we cannot refrain from expressing our solemn belief and boldly asserting that the nomination of Andrew M'Elwaine, will give more general satisfaction, rally more en masse support, awaken livelier energies of the party, and inspire greater confidence of success, than will that of either of the other respectable gentlemen named for the office.

Resolved, That independent of his unquestioned qualifications and political fitness, the nomination of Andrew M'Elwaine, is a boon the working classes have a right to demand, as well because of their party fidelity, as that the man of their choice, is himself a mechanic—an industrious and hard working citizen.

Resolved, That a favorable opportunity is now offered the Democracy of Pittsburgh, of practically illustrating their professions of sympathy and friendship for the Working Classes, by nominating for the Mayoralty, one of their number, and of refuting slanderous assertions of our Whig opponents, that their professions were but mere empty sounds, void of purpose and sincerity.

Resolved, That these proceedings be signed by the officers of the meeting and published in the Morning Post and Chronicle, and a copy of them be laid before the Convention on Tuesday next.

The meeting then proceeded to mark for delegates, which resulted in the choice of Andrew Scott, John Mackin, John S Hamilton, Esq. John A Parkinson, Esq and James Kearns.

It was then resolved that the delegates remain on instructed, as to Overseers of the Poor, and that the meeting adjourn to Saturday evening next, then to nominate candidates for the Select and Common Councils, and other Ward officers to be voted for at the approaching elections.

JAS BLAKELY, Ch'm.

WM J ASKRIM. } Sec'ys.
JOHN TAYLOR. }

SIXTH WARD.

J A Irwin Alex Cupples, M Kelley, Dr Alexander Black and Mr Tindle.

☞ Man's chief absorbing interest in life is attending to the wants of the body. This every man of reflection is compelled to acknowledge, however desirous he may be to lend his testimony to the fact of higher and holier objects, engaging the attention of the mass.

The epitaph of most men might read—

"He was born. He toiled and worried for food clothing and equipage, he sought the phantom happiness. He died."

If, then, mankind will still persist in attending chiefly bodily wants, all must admit that health should claim their first attention.

To all true enquirers, therefore, of the way to regain, to preserve health, we would say with candor, read the advertisement on the outside of this day's paper, concerning that celebrated and truly valuable medicine. *Dr. Wistar's Balsam of Wild Cherry.* dec 3

Coughs and Colds—In all cases of coughs and colds, the sufferers will find a pleasant but powerful remedy in Clickener's Sugar Coated Vegetable Pill.—The fame of this medicine has already spread far and wide. Over five hundred thousand boxes of these pills were sold last year, having been used in all ascertained cases with perfect success. For liver complaint, affection of the lungs, palpitation of the heart, influenza, asthma, scarlet fever, fever and ague, dropsy, typhus fever, and other diseases. This pill is coated with fine white sugar, so that the medicinal ingredients are imperceptible to the taste. To children, they may be administered without difficulty. So well convinced is Dr Clickener of their efficacy in all specified cases, that he pledges himself to return the money when the promised effect is not produced.

Sold by Wm Jackson, corner of Wood and Liberty streets, who is general Agent for Dr Clickener's Pills in Pittsburgh and vicinity.

☞ Beware of an imitation article called "*Improved Sugar-Coated Pills*," purporting to be Patented as both the pills and pretended patent are forgeries, got up by a miserable quack, in New York, who, for the last four or five years, has made his living by counterfeiting popular medicines. dec 15.

From the New York Weekly Times.

A Fearful Tale of a Tree.

BY THADDEUS W. MEIGHAN.

The tale of the "Groaning Tree," (with which almost everybody who reads at all is perfectly familiar) is not more remarkable than the one we are about to relate.

Near the village of White Plains, and within a mile of the battle ground, stands a peculiar looking remnant of what was, at one time, a very singular oak tree. It stood, like a giant, alone in a cleared enclosure used for pasturage, and was spared by the axe, as is said, because of its uncouth and unmatched shape. A branch had, when the oak was young, been bent in the form of a circle, so that the end rested in what inelegantly but expressively termed 'a crutch,' In the manner it grew, the 'crotch' closing up as the trunk expanded, and securing the intruder The other branches grew straight and strong—four of them indicating the points of the compass, and bearing foliage, which, unusually plentiful, formed a beautiful shelter. The 'crutch' grew, as we have already intimated, below these arms, and consequently was completely canopied.—

It was a secure and comfortable resting place, of which the young people residing in the vicinity made good use. Lovers met there. Public meetings were held there. May-day festivities and other sports were celebrated at this celebrated spot, said to be brief, the residence of the Squire and the little frame school house were objects of secondary consideration compared with this oak. Perhaps until this day that tree would have been associated with pleasure, had it not been for a mournful occurrence which shadowed its memory with the idea of death, and connected with its name terrible thoughts of the attributes of another world. This mournful occurrence may be briefly related.

A short time previous to the battle of White Plains, the British soldiery were accustomed to scour the country daily for whatever good fortune might cast in their way. They plundered the houses of all the valuables they contained, stripped the larders, desolated the hen-roosts, drove off the tenants of the stables, and left the country there about as bare as it must have been shortly after the deluge, in all things save in human beings. Hunger, compelled by the want of food wrongfully withheld, will make any man irascible and destructive. The natural consequence of the foragers was a feeling of hatred, as wild and ungovernable as the northern tempest, against every man who wore a red coat. If it were possible, that there were others who were hated more cordially than the British soldier—and these were the tory inhabitants, many of whom also formed themselves into marauding bands, and followed the occupation of 'robbing in the king's name,' at the expense of those who were neighbors, and had been friends. The chief leader of the tory bands was a young man of much talent and great personal beauty, named Brownson, who owned the Oak Tree, the land upon which it grew, and a neat little house about fifty rods distant. By foraging, he amassed in a few weeks a large sum of money, and the fact became as notorious as the Scriptures He had a young and pretty wife, whose admirability and patriotism shielded him for a long time from any extreme demonstration of hatred; but the ravages his band made at length were carried to such an extravagant pitch, that a meeting of his wronged and oppressed neighbors was at last called, to consider measures for the prevention of further impositions—the prompt punishment of the leaders of the series A blacksmith named Lent headed the meeting. He advocated immediate action, and called for the appointment of a committee to select subjects for punishment, and to originate the method of its administration.

The committee reported that Brownson should be first taken in hand. His life was to be spared—but they decided that he should be stripped of all his earthly possessions, and that his dwelling should be given to the flames. Twenty strong men immediately armed themselves and bent their steps towards Brownson's house. They halted beneath the Oak Tree and dismounted.

'Now' said Lent, who had gone to the windows of the dwelling and inspected every part around, 'advance, every man. There is none there but Brownson's wife himself. We will soon turn out and demand his money.'

As asserted. With noiseless steps they reached the house and posted themselves at the door Lent advanced, and, in a loud voice, commanded Brownson to come forth

'Who calls?' demanded Brownson.

'I, Peter Lent.'

'We are not friends—you can have no business with me. Leave my premises,' continued Brownson, as he opened the door.

'We will leave the premises,' exclaimed Lent, as he snatched the gaze of his assassinated enemy, 'but that will be after we have taken your gold and burnt your nest of treason about your ears.'

'Peter Lent, I know you, and I know every man with you. Let any harm come to me, and you shall all pay dearly for it! As for gold, I have none.'

'We search for it!' shouted Lent, as he pushed Brownson aside and rushed into the house followed by his companions.

They were met by the wife, who pathetically implored them to spare her house from the desecration of a search.

'We would do anything for you madam; but your husband is a marked man, and must be punished.—He has searched and robbed our houses—he will now pay him in his own coin.'

Thus spoke one of the commanders who had proposed the punishment. As if convinced of the right of retributive justice, the woman offered no further argument for mercy, but quietly, though more like a spectre than a thing of flesh and blood, glided to a seat in a corner of the apartment Her husband meanwhile watched the movements of his enemies, as they ransacked every nook and crevice. When they had done, and still were empty handed, he smiled contemptuously, saying as he did so—

'Well, gentlemen, you find that my house contains only what a poor man should possess. Are you satisfied.

'No!' spoke one of the numbers—'No, you have gold. It is a pity that it should be melted in the flames which will consume your dwelling. Speak, then, an I tell us where you have buried it.'

'I have spoken,' said Brownson, 'and I tell you again I have none.'

'Take him to the tree and hang him, if he does not tell,' cried Lent; 'and if he is obstinate, let him swing to death.'

'Up to the tree!' chorused the others.

Despite the screams of his wife, he was dragged to the tree, and preparations were at once made for putting the threat into execution. A rope was thrown over a limb, and one end placed in the hands of two stout men—the other end, fashioned into a slip-knot noose, was placed about the doomed man's neck.—Not a muscle moved as he passively allowed his captors to make these preparations. Neither did the smile of his swooning wife appear to make any visible impression. His face was blanched, his eyes were glassy, and his lips were bloodless; but his nerves were firm, and his heart undaunted. He had led a daring life, and he was determined to meet a bold and remorseless end.

'Now, said Lent, as his companions formed a circle around the tree, 'open your stubborn mouth, and disclose the hiding place you have selected for the money of which every honest man here can claim a portion. You have fifteen minutes to decide. Remember! disclosure or death!'

At this moment flames burst from the roof of the house. It was, according to the decision of the committee, *fired!*

'See,' murmured the fainting female, 'you have deprived us of home—spare, at least, our wretched lives. That which you asked, my husband has not. On my soul, as far I know, I speak no falsehood.'

'Perhaps we are wrong,' suggested one of the band.'

'Wrong!' said another, 'nonsense! Do you suppose he would tell her what he had done with the plunder?'

'Once more, and for the last time,' said Lent, addressing Brownson, 'I ask you to disclose where you have secreted your money?'

'For the last time, I reply, I will tell nothing.'

'Then mark me. You see that rafter crackling in the flames? In a moment it will fall. As that falls you will be suspended between heaven and earth.—Your fate is just, and may God have mercy on your soul.'

Each man uncovered, and bowed reverentially, as they all ejaculated the prayer.

'Husband!' shrieked the wife—'Husband! tell what they require, in the name of Heaven!'

'Never! I have no gold! If they kill me they will be murderers, and my death will not go unavenged!'

A crash announced that the burning rafter had fallen. Lent lifted his hand, and in a moment Brownson's body swung clear off the ground. The wife fell insensible. Lent raised his hand again, and Brownson was immediately lowered. He was soon sufficiently recovered to speak and listen.

'Brownson!' said Lent 'you see we are determined. Save yourself, if possible, for the sake of your wife.'

The hitherto strong resolves of the doomed man seemed shaken. He mentioned them to remove the rope from his neck. They did as he desired. Drawing near to Lent he faintly articulated 'I must recover my strength. Grant me a few minutes respite and you shall know all.'

'Look to the woman,' said Lent; 'see that she revives.' She was then raised, and placed upon an elevated knoll about five rods from the tree. They chafed her temples, yet she recovered not. Brownson's eye glanced uneasily around. A close observer could have detected the fact that the embryo hanging had not much disordered him. Suddenly his vision rested upon a musket which one of the men, attending upon the female, had left upon the ground. Quick as a flash of lightning he seized this weapon, and with the but felled Lent to the ground. He then ran to his wife, raised her form easily as he could that of a child, and essayed to escape.

'Fire!' yelled Lent. 'Fire! he has broken my arm.'

The sharp report of a dozen muskets pierced the air and awoke the surrounding echoes. Brownson staggered, fell, rose again, and blindly attempted to pursue his way. He mistook his direction, and going towards the tree, reached it, and fell with his burthen. The woman wounded, but the man, though shot in three vital parts still lived.

'Butchers!' groaned he, 'promise one thing ere I die.'

'What is it?'

'That we may be buried at the foot of this tree.'

'Your request shall be fulfilled.'

'Enough! *The gold you have sought to gain is buried here; BUT YOU SHALL NEVER TOUCH ONE PIECE!* Curse you all! Accur——' Two lifeless bodies lay bathed in blood, and the slaughterers gazed on them in mute horror.

Brownson and his wife were buried at the foot of the oak tree. As may reasonably be supposed, tales of supernatural appearances in connection with the tree were freely circulated among the ignorant and credulous, and the spot was, for a long period, shunned by young and old. The dreadful manner of the death of the forager and his brown companion, and the impossibility of finding gold where it was said to be, are excuses of these nonsensical rumors.

The scathed and blighted remnant has all the curious attributes described as belonging to the flourishing oak.

No dwelling was erected on the site of the burned tenement. The only punishment awarded Brownson's murderers was the agony of conscience—in those less times of war a trifling infliction.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

Office of the Pittsburgh Morning Post.

Monday, Dec. 15th, 1845.

Flour—The Flour market is very dull at present there being no receipts by river the transactions are small. Some trifling lots are coming in by wagon.—We quote sales of Saturday, from wagon, at $4.62½@4 70; sales from store $4,75@$5 00.

Butter—Sales of 15 bbls Roll Butter at 12½c; good fresh prim Butter will command 15 to 18c.

Ashes, Pots—Sales of several casks at $2.87½.

Pearls—There was a small transaction on Saturday of an extra lot at $3.50.

Buckwheat Flour has advanced a trifle. We quote at $1,75@2 per 100 lbs.

Corn Meal—62 1 2@75c.

Oats are getting scarce again; sales on Saturday at 47c per bush.

Eggs, are selling at 18½@20c per dozen.

Apples, green—None in by waggons; selling by Hucksters at from 12½ to 20c a peck.

Dried Apples are scarce, and are advancing; speculators are buying up all they can find at the present prices.

The number of wagons in market on Saturday was large, and supplies more varied and abundant than the two preceding weeks, but far from being sufficient to supply the actual daily demand for the city consumption.

CITY PRICES CURRENT. DEC. 15.

CAREFULLY CORRECTED EVERY AFTERNOON.

Flour—From Store,	$5.00@5 25
" Wagon,	4.75@4.87½
Buckwheat—per 100 lbs	1.50@1.62½
Corn Meal— do do	50 @1 62
Grain—Wheat ℔ bush.	0,00 @ 80
Corn,	36 @ 42
Oats,	36 @ 44
Hay—Loose, ℔ ton.	16.00 @18.0
Oil—Linseed, ℔ gall.	68 @ 70
Whiskey—℔ gall.	22 @ 24
Potatoes—Neshannock, ℔ bush.	31 @ 44
Salt—℔ bbl.	1 00 @1,06
Seeds—Flax,	1.00 @1.12½
Timothy,	2.37½@2.50
Clover,	5,00 @5,50
Lard—Net ℔ lb.	7½@ 8
Hogs—℔ lb (av. wt)	6 @ 8
Bacon—per lb.	7 @ 8
Cheese—per lb W R.	7 @ 8
Butter—Keg and Roll per lb.	10½@ 13

SUMMARY OF MARKETS.

CINCINNATI, Dec 10th

Flour—This article was firm on Tuesday, in consequence of the receipt of news from the East, which was brought by the last Eastern mail, of a slight advance, on previous quotations. The steamer *Cambria* was hourly expected, and prices had taken an upward movement again. We learn of a sale of 65 bbls from wagon here, on Tuesday, at $5.00. On the River, in flat boat, was held at $5 00—for which a dealer offered $4 87½—refused. A sale was made from store of 100 bbls, at $5—clear. Navigation is temporarily suspended and we have to report no arrivals of Flour or Whiskey.

Whiskey—Remains as at last quotations. Small sales are made at 24½@25½ ℔ gallon.

Hogs—We continue to quote Hogs at $4.25 to 4,37 a 4 50—in proportion to quality.

Cattle—A sale is sentus of a small lot, Tuesday, at $3,65 ℔ 100 lb.

BUFFALO, December 10, 1845.

There is but little to note in the markets for this week. We have had snug winter weather, with good sleighing, which has made business lively in our streets. The country market remains without material change with a good supply.

The foreign news received by the last dates, have caused wheat and flour to decline to $5. There is, however, but little doing—dealers not being disposed to enter very largely into operations, upon the uncertain state of the Eastern and European markets. We have not yet seen an account of the intelligence upon the New York market, as the news had not reached there prior to our last dates, except those which will be found under our postscript head.

The value of flour and wheat reaching tide-water, this season, is estimated at $22,050,000, against $12, 050,030 for 1844. The increase arises from the larger amount, and the higher price s.

Provisions remain without change, with but little doing.

ALBANY, Dec 8th.

Our flour market presents no new feature to-day. The foreign news does not appear to have effected it at all, and holders are firm at former quotations. But little will be done here before it is known how the New York market stands. A sale of Genesee was made yesterday afternoon at $6,75 which is about the only transaction we have to report. We notice a sale of ordinary two-rowed barley at 61c. Hops are held at 30 and 35c but without sales.

NEW YORK Dec. 8th.

Ashes.—The market is dull, but without change in prices price. Pots are held at $3,81¼, and pearls at $4,31¼.

Cotton.—The market on Saturday was quiet, and without change in price.

Flour and Grain.—We cannot give a correct quotation for flour, as we do not hear of any transactions since the reception of the steamer's news. As yet all are waiting to see the extent of the English orders, and at what price they will buy. That flour will decline, there seems no doubt.

There are several cargoes of corn afloat, but the market for that is in the same state as for flour.

SCHOOL BOOKS—A varied assortment at
dec 15 BOSWORTH & FORRESTER.

THE Miscellaneous Writings of Macaulay, Wilson, Sidney Smith and Bulwer. For sale by
dec 15 BOSWORTH & FORRESTER.

New Books.

MONUMENTS to Gen. Jackson, containing 95 Engravings and Sermons on his death.
dec 15 BOSWORTH & FORRESTER. 42 Market st.

BENNETS Book-keeping;
Colt's do
dec15 BOSWORTH & FORRESTER.

TO PRINTERS.

TYPOGRAPHIA, or the Printer's Instructor; a brief sketch of the origin, rise and progress of the Typographical Art; with practical directions for conducting every department in an office; hints to authors and publishers, &c., &c.' by thos. F. Adams.

PRINTING INK.—A large supply of Printer's Winter News Ink on hand and for sale by
CHARLES H. KAY,
dec15 corner of Wood and 3d sts.

Furniture.

IF you want to purchase any bedsteads, tables, chairs, settees, or any thing else in the furniture line, you can do better than to call at the furniture warerooms of T B YOUNG & CO.
dec13. Hand st, between Penn and Liberty.

PLAID CLOAKINGS.

20 PS. Plaid Cloakings, new and beautiful patterns, just received at No 42 Market st, corner of Third, by A A MASON.
dec 12

FLANNELS! FLANNELS!

100 PS. Red, Yellow and White Flannels of improved makes at Wholesale and Retail, at very low prices, by A A MASON.
dec 12 No 42 Market st.

BROCHA SHAWLS.

18 SUPERIOR Brocha Shawls, just received, which will be sold very low, by A A MASON,
dec 12 No 42 Market st.

1 CASE FURNITURE PRINTS Selling at 6½c. per yard at A. A. MASON'S,
dec 12 42 Market st.

De Laines.

20 PS. Dark and Light plaid de lains for children some as low as 20c. per yard, For sale at No 42 Market st. by A. A. MASON.
dec 12

To Business Houses.

A CITIZEN leaving for the South and Havanna will attend to any business entrusted to him.—Address A through the Post Office.
dec 13

For Sale, and a good chance for a Bargain.

A HOUSE and Lot on Sixth street, near Cherry Alley, Pittsburgh. The Lot is 26 feet 6 inches front by 90 feet in depth, a very desirable location for a private residence. Terms liberal and title indisputable. Inquire of W. O. LESLIE,
dec13 Smithfield st. near Fifth.

Ribbons, Velvets and Satins.

NOW open (by express) another lot of Fashionable Ribbons, Bonnet Velvets and Satins, at the New York store, 79 Market street.
W H GARRARD.
dec13.

SIMONS' LONDON WATCHES.

No. 49, King Square.

JUST received an assortment of Gold and Silver Patent Lever Watches, of the above superior make, which for fine workmanship, and complete accuracy, are surpassed by none, *and equalled but by one other maker.*

Also, A large stock of fine Gold and Silver Watches; made by M J Tobias & Co, T F Cooper, E S Yates & Co, Joseph Johnson, Church st., Liverpool and other genuine makers.

Also, A fine assortment of Ladies' Gold Lever Watches, and Watch Rigging, Chains, Keys, &c.

All at the lowest cash prices.

W. W. WILSON,
corner of 4th and Market st.

☞ Watch repairing in every variety continued as usual in the best manner, and all work warranted to give satisfaction. W.
dec 13

AUCTION SALES.

By John D. Davis, Auctioneer, corner of Wood and Fifth Streets

ON Monday morning the 15th inst., at 10 o'clock, will be sold an extensive assortment of seasonable Dry Goods, among which are broad cloths; cassimeres; satinets; flannels; calicoes; ginghams; checks; tickings; kentucky jeans; shawls; handkerchiefs; hosiery; gloves; patent thread; woolen comforts; silk cravats; fine shirts, &c.

At 2 o'clock, P. M.—A quantity of damaged nails; New Orleans molasses; loaf sugar; Virginia manufactured tobacco; N. Y. tanned sole leather; candles; T H lead; carpetting; mantle clocks; coal stoves and a great variety of new and second hand household furniture, hair mattresses, &c.

At 6½ o'clock, P. M.—An extensive assortment of new and second hand gold and silver watches; boots; shoes; boots; caps; guns; pistols; musical instruments; mathematical instruments and sundry staple and fancy articles.
dec13.

Retail Grocery Store,

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c,

AT AUCTION.

AT 2 o'clock on Tuesday afternoon the 16th inst., will be sold without reserve at No 90 Fifth street near Smithfield street, the entire stock of Groceries, Household and Kitchen Furniture, of a gentleman declining business, which are sugar, coffee, tea, starch, mustard, vinegar, molasses, glassware, confections, mackerel, herrings, soap, flour, 8 bbls, potat