The Daily Morning Post.

JOHN BIGLER, EDITOR.

☞ V B PALMER, Agent for country newspapers, is the Agent for the Pittsburgh Daily Morning Post, and Weekly Mercury and Manufacturer, to receive advertisements and subscriptions. He has offices in

NEW YORK, at the Coal Office, 30 Ann street, (adjoining the Tribune Office.)

BOSTON, No. 12, State street.

PHILADELPHIA, Real Estate and Coal Office, 59 Fine street.

BALTIMORE, S E corner Baltimore and Calvert sts, where our paper can be seen, and terms of advertising learned.

FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER:

WILLIAM B. FOSTER, JR.,

OF BRADFORD COUNTY.

The Rail Road Meeting.

The Railroad meeting, held at the old Court House yesterday morning, was very numerously attended, though convened upon a few hours notice. The resolutions are very strong and speak the prevailing sentiments of the Western people. We regret that an effort was made to give the proceedings a political character;—the friends of the measure have no desire to connect this great Pennsylvania project with the party feuds of the day. Such a course is certainly very objectionable in every view which can be properly taken of the case. The political parties in the east are divided upon the question—there are Democrats *for* and Democrats *against* the grant of the "right of way"—there are also Whigs *for* and Whigs *against* the measure. To connect the subject, therefore, with party politics, may do harm, but can do no good. Heretofore care has been taken to keep the subject entirely disconnected from the party movements of the day, and we trust that the wise policy of the past will govern our future action. So far as Gov SHUNK is concerned, he has has, we believe, expressed no opinion upon the subject. When the bill is presented for his consideration, it will, we honestly believe, promptly receive his approval and signature.

On the subject of the Railroad there is now, in fact, but one opinion entertained by the people of Western Pennsylvania. All are satisfied that it would be ruinous policy to force the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company to adopt the Virginia route; we doubt much whether one hundred men can be found in the entire west who *oppose* the Pittsburgh and *favor* the Virginia terminus. But, we will certainly be called upon to bear all the evils of a lower terminus if we longer refuse the Company "right of way" to Pittsburgh. The Representatives of the people we hope, therefore, will be governed by an enlighted and liberal policy, and by timely and favorable action upon the great question before them, save the state from the ruin which will certainly follow if it is defeated.

INDIAN CORN—SIR ROBERT PEEL'S NEW TARIFF.

The great change proposed by Sir Robert Peel in the English tariff, if adopted by Parliament—as we have no doubt it will be in its essential features—must inevitably, says the N Y Gazette, produce important results in favor of the corn-growing States. The duty to be paid on Indian corn imported into Great Britain, was in October last, eight shillings per quarter, or about twenty-two cents per bushel. Sir Robert Peel proposes to reduce the duty to one shilling per quarter, or to *two and three quarter cents* per bushel; making a difference of nineteen and a quarter cents per bushel. The immense benefits of such a change in the duty upon this one article will be appreciated by all who are conscious of the enormous surplus of it produced in the United States. The last census shows that, in the year it was taken, (1840,) these States produced 377,531,875 bushels of Indian corn.

States.	*Produce.*
Tennessee	44,686,188
Kentucky	39,847,620
Ohio	23,668,141
Virginia	34,577,592
Indiana	28,155,987
North Carolina	23,893,763
Illinois	22,634,211
Georgia	20,905,122
Alabama	20,947,001
Missouri	17,335,531
South Carolina	14,729,805
Pennsylvania	14,240,022
Mississippi	13,161,237
New York	10,372,285
14 States produced	340,043,904

Hence it appears that the ten States first named produced, in the year, 386,947,551 bushels of corn or nearly *three hundred millions*. This quantity was raised when there was no stimulus to a large production, springing from a reasonable certainty of finding a remunerating market for the large surplus that existed over and above the means of home consumption. The heavy duty imposed by the laws of Great Britain amounted to a virtual prohibition of exports to that country. The onerous duty on pork prevented the export of that article with any profit to the producer. Sir Robert Peel's new system admits pork free of duty, with the exception of hams.

If the United States could produce a surplus of only fifty million bushels of corn, and could find a market for that surplus in England, the return to the producers would be immense. But they can produce more than that.

The question then arises, will Great Britain furnish a market for this surplus? Is not her present movement dictated solely by the apprehension of an extraordinary scarcity of food for both man and beast?—When that apprehension is removed by abundant crops, will she not change her policy, or if she does not change, will it not be true that she will have no occasion for this surplus?

We state one fact, which may not be generally known in this country. Indian corn has never been used as an article of food in Great Britain. She has never used it for the purpose of feeding and fattening cattle. She has not even used it in her distilleries for the production of spirits. She annually makes large importations of beans from Egypt to feed her cattle. The same money would produce much more value in feed for cattle, expended in the purchase of Indian corn. By a repeal of the duty on Indian corn, the money that has gone heretofore to Egypt, will henceforth be sent to the United State. When the English people have learnt the value of this article, both for man's consumption and for feed for cattle, there will be a radical change in their views of its uses and importance.

A CRASH IN THE TEMPLE.—It is stated in the Warsaw Signal, that, on Saturday last, the saints assembled in the hall of the Temple, which is in the third story, to hear the last sermon of Brigham Young, previous to his departure. So great was the weight that the timbers gave way with a loud crash, like the report of fire arms. The alarm and confusion was tremendous. Some of the saints broke out the windows and leaped to the ground. One man had his shoulder fractured, and others were badly hurt in thus attempting to escape. The crowd, however, succeeded in escaping before any serious injury was done to the building. Our informant estimates the damages at from $500 to $1000.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION.—The Democracy of N Orleans have nominated "that firm and uncompromising democrat," A J Guidot as their candidate for Mayor. He was the unanimous choice.

Great Flood in the Susquehana.

We are indebted to the kindness of W. R. MOORHEAD, Agent of the Good Intent Fast Mail Line, for the following extract of a letter from Mr. Snyder of Chambersburg:

Chambersburgh, March, 15, 1846. } 3 o'clock, P. M. }

COL. W. R. MOORHEAD:

DEAR SIR—The cars have just arrived from the river, bringing intelligence of a great flood in the Susquehanna. Several Bridges over the river above and below Harrisburgh, have been destroyed by the flood. The Bridge at Clark's Ferry was swept off and took with it the old Harrisburgh Bridge from the Island to the town—it also took with it the four new spans of the Cumberland Valley Rail Road Bridge, which were erected last fall. Yesterday a *covered Bridge*, and a small House, and a Saw Mill, came down the river. There has been a great destruction of property along the river and the Canal. The water is from *twenty* to *twenty-five* feet above high water mark.

There is not much probability that there will be any mails from the east for several days."

GREAT PROJECT.—We learn, says the Louisville Journal, that the Legislature of Mississippi has passed the Southern railroad bill. It is intended to be a link between the Mississippi river and the Atlantic.—The Legislature of Alabama has passed an act to construct a railroad to meet the above road runing from Vickesburgh to the Alabama line.

It was reported yesterdiy, says the St Louis Reveille, of the 9th inst., that the steamer John Golong was sunk at Camden bend, in the Missouri river. We were unable to ascertain as to the truth of the report. The steamer Tioga, in yesterday from Keokuk, passed a vawl below the mouth of the Missouri, which reported itself to be from the John Golong, with the crew of that steamer.

EXTENSIVE NURSING.—The Revenue des Deux Mondes, contains a remarkable disquisition on the question of founding hospitals, and a particular description of the hospital of Paris. This institution received, from 1816 to 1835, ninety-six thousand four hundred and fifteen infants presumed to be natural, and six thousand seven hundred and seventy-four presumed legitimate. The annual contribution to it from the capital averages five thousand. A religious attendant in the Paris Hospice, Sister Guilon, served fifty two years, and received and nursed three hundred and sixty thousand infants. This is the most extensive nursing that we ever heard.

ECONOMY IN STEAM FUEL.—A late foreign paper states that a Frenchengineer named Leonard, has taken out a patent in England for a simple means of diminishing the fuel necessary for producing steam.—He introduces fish oil into the boiler, with only a small portion of water. When the oil is at boiling heat the water precipitates itself into the interior, and steam is generated as fast as is desired, without the oil being decomposed. The saving in fuel is said to *be forty or fifty per cent.*

MAIL TO OREGON.—The Postmaster General wishes an ocean and overland mail to Oregon—a monthly steamship from Charleston to Havana—every second month, the trip to be extended to Chagera, a place on the east side of Panama—thence by carriage to the west side—thence by vessel to the mouth of the Columbia, Congress should see that all this be done immediately.

A FAMILY OF DEMOCRATIC BIRDS.—In reading over the list of subscribers to the Jackson Monument published in the Washington Union we noticed the following names, with the several sums annexed, from Tallahassee, Florida:—Benjamin Byrd, Arthur Barney Byrd, Green Bright Byrd, Nathan Blount Byrd, Joshua Benton Byrd and Benjamin Buchanan Byrd.

A very poor and aged man, busied in planting apple trees, was rudely asked, "Why do you plant trees, who cannot hope to eat the fruit of them?" He raised himself up, and leaning on his spade, replied, "Some one planted trees for me before I was born, and I have eaten the fruit; I now plant for others that the memorial of my gratitude may exist when I am dead and gone."

A CENTENIEN.—Mrs Ann Gourlay died in Charleston on the 6th inst., at the age of nearly 100. She had been a widow for half a century, and outlived all her children and grand children except one. In early life she had, at a ball in Maryland, her native state, danced with General Washington, and perhaps, was the last female in the United States, who could claim this honor. All the acquaintances of not only her early days, but of maturer life, have long since been cut off by death, and she has been for many years a stranger in the land, not only of her fathers, but even of her children.

PRIDE OF THE WEST.—News was received in this city, on Saturday evening, says the St. Louis Organ of the 9th inst., of the loss of the Pride of the West, a new steamer bound from New Orleans to this port.—She struck a snag on Friday last about noon, near the head of Hat Island, and immediately sunk in four feet water. She was full freighted for this port, and was insured for $16,500—where we have not learned.

The citizens of Jackson county, in this State, says the Independence Expositor, killed a black wolf there week before last, which had destroyed 800 sheep during the last season.

Fire creates all things and destroyeth all things. A little is life, a great deal is death.

Love is like a diamond with a flaw in it. It is precious, but imperfect.

Poetry is like mirage. It magnifies small things and gives to common things a singular form.

LOVE AND A THRASHING.—In Saturday's Herald, a Baltimore correspondent tells the following:—

An ardent young man, named Baer, from Havre de Grace, who was in attendance at the grand ball of the Independent Greys, a few nights since, fell desperately in love with a lady to whom he had an introduction, named Miss Cooper, daughter of Mr. John Cooper, on Howard street. After sleeping on his love, he found it grew no better, and not knowing how to follow up his acquaintance, he sat down and wrote her a very respectful letter, desiring a private interview, and sent it for delivery by a negro. The messenger delivered the letter to the lady's father, who broke open the seal read it, picked up his cane, and made the negro lead him to the person who sent the letter.

They accordingly proceeded to the National Hotel, on Pratt street, and the amorous youth was pointed out to the enraged father, reclining on a sofa, and dreaming of the elysium of bliss to which a favorable answer would lead him. The father seized him by the collar and dragged him to his feet, and without a word of explanation, beat the poor fellow half to death with his cane. All who knew the character of young Baer, are satisfied that his intentions were perfectly honorable, and that his ignorance of city usages alone caused him all his trouble. By and bye, when he becomes a grandfather, he will doubtless laugh heartily over his first courting expedition in Baltimore. The lady is beautiful, and generally goes beyond the rules of propriety in her manners, and doubtless was as much in fault as her young admirer, who will bear the marks of his ardent passion for many days to come, with no one to sooth his sorrow.

☞ A lady having purchased some squashes of a couple of boys, overheard them disputing about the money:

"Give me half on't," says one.

"No I won't says the other.

"Now that ain't fair, you know t'aint, Jo, for half the pup was mine."

From the Dispatch Extra.

RIGHT OF WAY.

On Tuesday morning a large number of our citizens met at the Old Court House, when, on motion Capt *Porter*, Hon. BENJ. PATTON, jr., was called to the chair; on motion of Mr *Craft*, Messrs WM BELL, JOHN BIGLER, WM. A. PENNIMAN and REESE C. TOWNSEND were chosen Vice Presidents—Captain *Porter* and *Harrison Parry* acted as Secretaries.

Mr. Craft was opposed to the common mode of placing resolutions before public meetings, and declining to act as Chairman thereof, moved for a committee of seven on resolutions, which was agreed to, and Messrs. *Gazzam, Craft, Bakewell, Avery, Guthrie, Sterling* and *Reed*, were appointed.

Mr *Craft* read a law of the State, against erecting an independent state within the limits of this Commonwealth—and making such a movement High Treason. Mr. *Bigler* read and address from the Committee at Harrisburg, in favor of a Mass Western Pennsylvania Convention in Allegheny City, on 5th of April next.

Mr. *Austin* offered the following resolutions, and supported them in a few pertinent remarks:

(Mr. *Austen's* resolutions have not been furnished us—some of them, if not all, were adopted by the committee.)

After some remarks from Mr. *Hamilton* in opposition to the resolution to *vote* against opponents of the bill—and from Mr. *Craft*, as to the mode of their introduction—the resolutions were referred to the Committee, and Mr. *Austin* placed thereon *vice* Dr. *Gazzam*, who declined from indisposition.

Col *Bigler* then addressed the meeting, in a somewhat lengthy speech, showing the advantages our Legislature and State Government have granted to the *Chainee*, residing east of the Schuylkill.

Col B concluded amid loud cheers, and was followed by Mr *Hamilton* in opposition to making the right of way a *political* matter. He opposed very strongly any lengthening of the bill with objectionable features, leading to its rejection by the Company. Mr *Bigler* read a letter from Harrisburg, similar to what we publish in another column.

By request, Mr. *Dunlap* addressed the new vast assemblage, giving the subject the attention it deserved.

He was interrupted by the return of the Committee, who, through Mr. *Austin*, reported the following resolutions:

Resolved, "That an equal distribution of protection, rights, privileges and advantages is what every part is entitled to, and ought to enjoy—that an opposite course never fails to create great and violent political evils and alienation between the people favored and the people oppressed; hence a total alienation of affections, interests, political obligations, and all manner of connections, necessarily ensue."

Resolved, That the citizens of Philadelphia do wrest from the "Right of Way," and to divert from us the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad to Parkersburg or Wheeling, betrays an ignorance of their own interests an indifference to ours, and a degree of short-sighted selfishness of which we supposed them incapable.

Resolved. That we are not disposed to return the contumelious stabs with smiles, and that Philadelphia will find, in Congress and our state Legislature, that *Western* voters are able to "*pay them in their own coin*."

Resolved. That the liberal and unnatural course pursued by Philadelphians, presenting a strong contrast to the just and magnanimous course pursued by New York towards Boston, will inevitably and justly cause the people of Western Pennsylvania to regard them as totally indifferent to our welfare, and foster a desire to absolve ourselves from all alliance political, and commercial, with them.

Resolved. That we, the citizens of Pittsburgh, here assembled, of *all* parties, pledge ourselves unanimously to support no man, now or hereafter, for any office, who opposes the Right of Way, and we recommend to our citizens of Western Pennsylvania to pursue the same course.

Resolved. That if the Right of Way be defeated, we recommend to our people not to bestow their patronage on any Pittsburgh merchant who buys of a Philadelphian, because those Philadelphians who are with us are bound openly to sustain their opinions.

Resolved. That our representatives in the State Legislature be instructed to move an inquiry into the alleged mismanagement of the Girard trust—and that Philadelphia be permitted to defend herself "by counsel before the Bar of the House" against the charge of wasting the portion of the orphan and the fatherless.

Resolved, That the just and liberal policy of the New York Legislature in granting the Right of Way to the citizens of Massachusetts through a portion of her territory, is an example worthy of Pennsylvania imitation, and ought to put Philadelphia to the blush.

Resolved. That our representatives in the Legislature be requested to inquire into the expediency of repealing all exclusive and special privileges enjoyed by Philadelphia, such as the employment of our Supreme Judges in the drudgery of their jury trials—at the expense of the residue of the Commonwealth.

☞ The chairman stated that after having taken the sense of the meeting on the resolutions of the committee, he hoped it would not be deemed out of order in him to say, that from some of the resolutions he dissented.

To the People of Western Pennsylvania.

FELLOW CITIZENS:—We speak to you from the scene of action. The exigency of the case demands it. We speak not the language of terror, but of a wise precaution. We know, because we *see*, the immense influence which are brought to bear, to defeat the Bill granting the right of way to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, at the present session. Every art which a blind selfishness can suggest, every means which a wicked ingenuity can devise, is boldly and recklessly used by Philadelphia to defeat it. A last struggle in its behalf must be made. It must be made by the PEOPLE. Argument with our opponents is useless. The ear of reason is closed. Nothing will open it, but the thunder tones of an outraged, and indignant people, demanding justice with the stern determination to have it. We therefore *appeal* to *you* for immediate and determined action. Let it come, but let it come *quickly*.

We would therefore earnestly request that Mass Meetings should be held immediately in every township, village, city and county, to express the opinion of the West and Southwest on the subject of the Right of Way—and also their ultimate determination, in case it should be defeated by an unwise, Chinese, Philadelphia policy—to take into consideration the entire question of their wrongs, and to adopt all such measures as may be deemed necessary and proper on the occasion, and forward their proceedings immediately to the Legislature.

In addition to the above, we would also strongly recommend that a General Mass Convention shall be held at Allegheny city, on Wednesday, the 8th day of April next, in order to concentrate the expression of the opinion of Western Pennsylvania on these subjects, and that action be taken at these meetings in reference to the same.

Let the voice of *the people be heard*. Let it be *known* that the entire West, is, on this subject a slumbering volcano, which it requires but the defeat of the present bill, to excite into fearful and overwhelming activity, let it be settled, now, at once and forever, that Philadelphia has ruled the Commonwealth long enough; that she shall do so no longer, that the people of thd West have *rights*, which they will no longer *beg* or accept as *favors*, from this Pekin of Pennsylvania; that they *know* their rights, and that, at last, they are determined to maintain them.

Courage, Fellow citizens! Courage! In this hour of need, *work*—work, and all is won. To the vigilant, the active, the brave, "there is no such word as *—fail!*

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THE DEAD LETTER OFFICE.

The editor of the Eastern Argus, writing to this paper, from Washington, under date of February the 21st, 1846, gives the following graphic description of the Dead Letter Office, in the General Post Office Department. He says:

Among the places which I have visited, is the Dead Letter Office, in the Post Office Department It is certainly an interesting part of that building.—You will be surprised at some of the facts that I learned there. The business of the Dead Letter Office alone, employs four clerks all the time. One opens the bundles containing the letters sent to Washington, from the several Post Offices, after they have been advertised, and no owner found for them. He passes over the letters to two other clerks, who open them all, to see if they contain any thing valuable.—If they do not, they are thrown on to the pile on the floor. No time is allowed to read them, as that would be impossible, without a great addition of help. The number of dead letters returned to the General Post Office is astonishingly large. You will be surprised when I tell you that it is *fourteen hundred thousand* a year, and under the cheap postage system, is increasing. Hence it requires swift hands to open so large a number, without stopping to read a word. Any one who is so silly as to write a mess of nonsense to an imaginary person, supposing it will be ultimately read by some one, may save himself the trouble hereafter. He may depend upon it, not a word will be likely to be read of the letter, unless he encloses something valuable in it and that would be paying too dear for so small a whistle. At the end of each quarter, the letters that have been opened, have accumulated to a huge mass, and having been in the mean time stowed in bags, are carted out on the plains, and there consumed in a bonfire. The huge bags make five or six cart loads each quarter.

The letters containing anything valuable—or, in fact, any matter enclosed—are passed over to a fourth clerk, who occupied a separate room for the purpose, and there are canvassed by this gentleman. It is very interesting to examine the heterogeneous materials of this room, that have been extracted from letters, and accumulating for years. Here you see the singular matters that are sometimes transported through the Post Office. The amount of moneys, that at various times has been found in letters, is very large. When anything of value, as money, drafts, &c., is found, the rule is, to return it to the Post Office, whence it came, and let the Postmaster of that office must advertise it, or use any other means best calculated to find the owner. If all his efforts fail, he returns it to the General Office and it is labelled and filed away. Sometimes as much as $300 are found in a week, in dead letters! I think, within this month several hundreds have been found. And no one cheat is kept for the purpose of these deposits.—In looking over the files in that chest, I was astonish ed at the amount of money there, and the large sums contained in some of the letters. Some single letters containing $50, $40, $30 and down to $1. One letter contained a £40 note—very likely the property of some poor emigrant (intended for his wife or children,) who had made a mistake, in sending it, and no owner could be found.

Among this money is a good deal of counterfeit.—The letters are all labelled, not only with the sums but also whether containing counterfeit or good money. There were many bad small bills, scattered through the piles. In one case there was a bad half eagle—in another were two letters, each containing a $10 counterfeit note. It was on some N York Bank, new, and very nicely done and was, no doubt, the remittance of one counterfeiter to another, who had been in the mean time, apprehended, or was suspicious he was watched and hence had been too cunning to call for the wicked deposite of his confederate.—

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Among the places which I have visited, is the Dead Letter Office, in the Post Office Department It is certainly an interesting part of that building.—You will be surprised at some of the facts that I learned there. The business of the Dead Letter Office alone, employs four clerks all the time. One opens the bundles containing the letters sent to Washington, from the several Post Offices, after they have been advertised, and no owner found for them. He passes over the letters to two other clerks, who open them all, to see if they contain any thing valuable.—If they do not, they are thrown on to the pile on the floor. No time is allowed to read them, as that would be impossible, without a great addition of help. The number of dead letters returned to the General Post Office is astonishingly large. You will be surprised when I tell you that it is *fourteen hundred thousand* a year, and under the cheap postage system, is increasing. Hence it requires swift hands to open so large a number, without stopping to read a word. Any one who is so silly as to write a mess of nonsense to an imaginary person, supposing it will be ultimately read by some one, may save himself the trouble hereafter. He may depend upon it, not a word will be likely to be read of the letter, unless he encloses something valuable in it and that would be paying too dear for so small a whistle. At the end of each quarter, the letters that have been opened, have accumulated to a huge mass, and having been in the mean time stowed in bags, are carted out on the plains, and there consumed in a bonfire. The huge bags make five or six cart loads each quarter.

The letters containing anything valuable—or, in fact, any matter enclosed—are passed over to a fourth clerk, who occupied a separate room for the purpose, and there are canvassed by this gentleman. It is very interesting to examine the heterogeneous materials of this room, that have been extracted from letters, and accumulating for years. Here you see the singular matters that are sometimes transported through the Post Office. The amount of moneys, that at various times has been found in letters, is very large. When anything of value, as money, drafts, &c., is found, the rule is, to return it to the Post Office, whence it came, and let the Postmaster of that office must advertise it, or use any other means best calculated to find the owner. If all his efforts fail, he returns it to the General Office and it is labelled and filed away. Sometimes as much as $300 are found in a week, in dead letters! I think, within this month several hundreds have been found. And no one cheat is kept for the purpose of these deposits.—In looking over the files in that chest, I was astonish ed at the amount of money there, and the large sums contained in some of the letters. Some single letters containing $50, $40, $30 and down to $1. One letter contained a £40 note—very likely the property of some poor emigrant (intended for his wife or children,) who had made a mistake, in sending it, and no owner could be found.

Among this money is a good deal of counterfeit.—The letters are all labelled, not only with the sums but also whether containing counterfeit or good money. There were many bad small bills, scattered through the piles. In one case there was a bad half eagle—in another were two letters, each containing a $10 counterfeit note. It was on some N York Bank, new, and very nicely done and was, no doubt, the remittance of one counterfeiter to another, who had been in the mean time, apprehended, or was suspicious he was watched and hence had been too cunning to call for the wicked deposite of his confederate.—In the same way, also a box of change, of all kinds, and a large string of rings of various fancies and values, taken from the dead letters. Many a love token of this modest kind, enveloped in a letter courted in most hoeied words and intended, in the mind of the writer, for the dearest girl in the universe, had instead of reaching its interesting destination, brought up in the dead letter office, and passed through the practical hands of these cold grey haired clerks, who have stopped to weed the tender affection that has so much rocking of the heart strings, and the delicate pledge of affection had been tossed into the iron chest instead of encircling the taper finger of "the love" for whom it was purchased.

But passing out of the chest, the matters that meet your eye on the shelves, and in the cases, are equally interesting. Here are books, and ribbons, and gloves, and hosiery, and a thousand other things. I saw one specimen of a most splendid ribbon, of several inches, that seemed very much out of place here—when it was intended to adorn the bonnet of some lady. A package lay near, that had not been opened. It was from England. The postage was $8.63. It had been refused at the office where sent, because of its enormous postage, and was sent to the dead office, in due course of time. Now, said the Superintendent, I will show you what valueless things that are sent through the mails in comparison to their expense.—I do not know what is in this, but so will see. So he opened it, and behold, it contained about a yard of coarse cloth, like crash, worth perhaps a shilling, which had been sent to some dry goods' house in this country, as a specimen of the manufacture of the article, by some factory in England. Of course, the postage being thirty times its value, it was refused by those to whom it was directed. I saw *two night caps* that were taken from a letter, only a few days since. If the poor fellow to whom they were sent does not sleep in a night cap till he gets these, his head will be cold. It is impossible for the Department to attend to finding owners for the comparatively valueless things that are received; as night caps, ribbons, gartets, stockings, stays, bustles, &c. &c., and they are therefore thrown into the receptacle of "things lost to earth," and a pretty "kettle of fish" there is in that receptacle, you may depend.

In these cases, arranged and labelled for the purpose, are the legal documents found in letters. These are numerous, and run back for a long term of years. They are most carefully preserved. The beneficial policy of this preservation has been often illustrated, and most strikingly so, only the other day. A gentleman in a distant State, wrote the superintendent that some seven or eight years ago, a large package of most valuable papers had been lost through the Post Office. They involve the right to a large estate. If he could not find them, he would be irretrievably ruined, and begged him to search in the Department for them. He did so. He told me that the first case he opened, under a pile of other papers, he saw a large package, answering the description. He took it out and it was the very papers he wanted. They had slept there quietly for years. The postage was about $10—and they had originally, by some mistake, failed of their rightful owner. The package had been carefully preserved, and the owner was pecuniarily saved.

I have given you but a faint description, after all, of this interesting portion of the General Post Office operations. My letter, however, has reached a prudent length, and I must stop. The gentleman who superintends in this wing, is JERE. O'BRIEN, Esq. of Brunswick, in our county. He has been here about ten months. To his politeness I was much indebted, in my observations. I have heard his gentlemanly deportment spoken of by others in this connection. He is a fine specimen of the New England gentleman, and I am happy to record his success in obtaining a place in this Department.

CURIOUS ANECDOTE.

In the last number of the 'Review of the Empire,' the Baron Felix des Ports relates the circumstances which is thus freely translated:

In one of the warmest and most fatal engagements in the Portugal campaign, the 27th regiment of the line, was among the first that gave way, being suddenly surrounded and briskly assailed by a corps of English which threw them into a moment's confusion. Their colonel had, however, succeded in rallying them, when a shot broke his leg and killed his horse. Believing him dead, his men thought only of revenging his loss which was but the work of a moment.

At the point of the bayonet, they opened a wide passage through the enemy. No one thought, however, of the remains of the colonel when a sergeant of veltigeurs, by the name of Chesquierre, a small, delicately formed man, cried out, "What a shame to leave the remains of the colonel to the enemy! Come, to the rescue! and let us show these youngsters whom they have to do with." Two brave fellows turned back with him, but it was only to find a glorious death on the way. He arrived alone, but all his strength was insufficient to move the body. After many vain efforts he sat down by the deceased and cried like a child. Suddenly he perceived two of the enemy's officers at a distance. He makes signs with musket and they, thinking to make a prisoner, hastened up. One of them he soon disables with a shot, and commences a deadly encounter with the other.

At length he is victor, and his wounded enemy surrenders. Catching a horse, he compelled his prisoner to aid him in placing the body of the colonel across the saddle; then ties him and his companion to the tail of the horse and arrives at the hospital with his two prisoners and his precious load. On examining the wounds of the colonel, the surgeon says they are not mortal, and the necessary aids being administered he revives, and, informed of his obligations to Chesquierre, throws himself into his arms. Chesquierre, utters a cry, and it is only then they perceive that he is wounded. 'Take off your coat and come hore,' says the surgeon, 'that I may dress the wound.' He hesitates and his face becomes suffused. 'Come along,' cries the surgeon 'do you suppose that I have any time to throw away?' In spite of the sergeant's resistance they took off his coat, and exposed an arm plump, round and well formed as a female's. A lady in fact, it was.

The English officers wept with rage and mortification at being the prisoner of a woman. The explanation was thus: Virginia Chexulere, of Dilmont, near Lisle, Flanders, seeing her young brother incapable of sustaing the fatigues of war, taken by conscription, had obtained her parent's permission to put herself in his place. They were twins and of much the same appearance. She took her place on the dparture of the troops, had served six years and been successfully promoted to her present grade.

The general, informed of these facts, gives her discharge, with the Cross of the Legion of Honor. The young woman returned to her home and is universally cited as a model of personal courage and of feminine propriety.

MEXICAN LADIES.

Management of their Dresses, &c.—The following clever sketch is from one of the letters of the correspondent of the London Times in the city of Mexico. The same thing which strikes this writer—the way the Mexican ladies manage their dresses in threading a cord—has often surprised us, and the manner which the women of the middle and lower classes of Mexico can dispose of themselves upon the floor at a fandango or other merry-makings, is even more singular. We have seen a dozen of them seat themselves upon a space on the floor that would hardly afford standing room for that number of females of any other land, and how they did it was a mystery. But this has nothing to do with the extract from the London Times, which is as follows:—*N O Pic.*

I have never gone to the theatre without being surprised at the talent with which a Mexican belle pilots her way through the avenues of chairs in her box to that particular seat which is reserved for her nightly use. Fashion having ordained that everybody shall not wear less than from seven to eleven petticoats, all stuffed to the highest degree, and ordered more than loon like by mainstays of canvass equally stiffened, it is impossible for her safety to pass though any space less than five yards wide. But as young ladies must glide between half a dozen chairs, not two feet apart, each compelled to produce that quart bottle of hardness—a pint decanter, and that without deranging the general symmetry or disturbing the flowing outline.—She therefore, leaving the upper part of the dress to swell to its greatest extent, attches firmly both hands to that part below the knee, and thus clasping it fore and aft, she glides through the projecting rockers in this operation like a cutter working its way through the narrow passage of a reef; with canvass ten times its bulk swelling in the breeze, with the graceful craft itself is scarcely seen until it reaches the desired point in safety. When the Mexican belle has secured her place the volume of dress rises at each side to an immense extent. She sits in the midst of fleecy hosiery, covered with gauze, in clouds of vapory muslin, or many-colored silks, like Mr Green's Vauxhall balloon. We see only, a face, shoulders and a waist.

Furniture at Auction.

At M'Keizie's New Auction Rooms, No 111 Wood street, Third door from Fifth street.

TOMORROW, Thursday, March 19th, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, the household and kitchen furniture of several families declining housekeeping and removing from the city. Among the various articles, are

1 wardrobe; 1 Gothic clock; maple high post bedstead; looking glasses; carpeting; table covers; mahogany bureaus; 1 pair do card tables; bird cages; 1 astral lamp; 2 desks; 1 small wagon; 2 wheelbarrows; fancy stools; kettle; together with a large variety of kitchen utensils.

P. M'KENNA,
mar18 Auctioneer.

Auction Sales.

BY JOHN D DAVIS, Auctioneer, corner of Wood and Market streets.

At 10 o'clock on Thursday morning, the 19th inst., will be sold an extensive assortment of fresh and seasonable Dry Goods.

At 2 o'clock, P. M.—A quantity of new and second hand Household Furniture; among which are Mahogany Dressing Bureaus, high and low post Bedsteads, fancy and common Chairs, rocking Chairs, work and wash Stands, Mattresses, Carpeting, Looking Glasses, Mantel Clocks, Astral and Pine Oil Lamps, &c.—Also Glassware, Queensware, Cordage, Tobacco, 9 barrels Lake Fish, 2 quarter casks of sweet Malaga Wine, 2 half chests Young Hyson Tea, &c.

At 7 o'clock, P. M.—Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, ready made Clothing, Gold and Silver Watches, Fine Cutlery, Hardware, Saddles; Bridles, Harness, Leather Trunks, Fine Shirts, fancy Cravats, and a great variety of fancy and staple goods. mar 18

Valuable Household Furniture at Auction.

AT 10 o'clock on Wednesday morning the 18th instant at the new Brick Dwelling House belonging to major Willock on Ferry st, between 2d and 3d sts., will be sold the entire stock of House hold Furniture belonging to two families, the greater part of which is nearly new and all in good preservation; and among which are the following, viz: Mahogany Sideboards, Sofas, Chairs, Mahogany Side and Pier Tables, Wash Stands, Rocking Chairs, High and Low Post Beadsteads, Feather Beds and Mattresses, Fancy and Common Chairs, Dining and Breakfast Tables, Ven