

THE RAFTSMAN'S JOURNAL.

LETTER FROM HARRISBURG.
Correspondence of the Raftsmen's Journal.

JANUARY 7, 1859.

FRIEND ROW—The disposal of the balance of the officers in the House brought the week's business to a close, and there was a general pulling out among those who did not win. In fact the stamped was so general, and the House and Senate felt so lonesome, that they both adjourned over till next Monday. In the interim, the Speakers will construct the committees.

The Senate organized on Tuesday afternoon, by electing **JOHN CRAWFORD, JR.**, of Blair, as Speaker, and **W. H. Miller**, Chief Clerk, and **F. M. Hutchison**, Assistant. On Wednesday the balance were elected—of course all being Democrats—as follows: J. Simpson, Africa, A. J. Barr and Wm. S. Picking, Transcribing Clerks; Theo. Snyder, Sergeant-at-arms, and Wm. P. Brady, Assistant; Charles Nolt, Doorkeeper, J. R. Dunbar and G. H. Stoeber, Assistants; Herman Yerkes, Messenger, and G. W. Long, Assistant.

The Opposition in the House have had a prolonged contest. They have held caucuses at intervals from Monday until late on Wednesday night, and wound up their labors by dividing the petty offices among men I never heard of before, to the exclusion of a number of old party wheel-horses, who are always called upon when there is campaign work to do. There has been bargaining, wire-working, and gross treachery on the part of some to effect their ends, but their inequities, like little chickens, will come home to roost. The following were the lucky ones:—Wm. C. A. Lawrence, of Dauphin, Speaker; S. J. Rea, of Philadelphia, Chief Clerk; Judson Holcomb, of Bradford, Assistant; C. W. Gillfillan, Pearson G. Foster, E. H. Rauch, and John Picking, Transcribing Clerks; John Clemens, Sergeant-at-arms, J. M. Harley, J. W. Fletcher, F. Gher and S. R. Eales, assistants; John C. Morgan, Doorkeeper, and A. B. Reece, S. McDonald, Wm. Gardy and J. W. Kimmel, assistants; A. D. Davis, Messenger, and J. Williams, D. F. Hempey, J. Rheimer and Wm. Deal, assistants.

Nothing of any local interest to your readers has yet been brought up. A few general bills have been introduced into both Houses. One for the abolition of the Canal Board has passed the House—is in the Senate, and will speedily become a law. In the Senate, a bill has been introduced for a general banking law, and another to prevent banks from issuing notes of a less denomination than \$20.

The removal question of the seat of justice from Clearfield to Curwensville will probably come up at an early day. Legislative experience in removing county seats, and dividing small counties, is very much against the adage to "let well enough alone." In Columbia county, the people of the upper end tried for 20 years to get a law passed allowing them a vote on the removal of the county seat, and when they finally accomplished it, their fairly proportioned county was cut in two. And then, for another sample, look at Union. But, if there is a clear majority in Clearfield in favor of removal, they may carry their point some day.

I am still stopping at the very excellent U. S. Hotel. I believe, Mr. Editor, that you will bear me out in saying it is one of the best hotels in the State, and that Mr. Kauga is a model landlord. It is to be regretted that his health is so bad that he will in all probability be compelled to sell out. A rare chance for a good landlord, who understands the business, and no other one need undertake it.

YOURS TRULY, SPECIAL.

PENNSYLVANIA ITEMS.

PREPARED FOR THE "RAFTSMAN'S JOURNAL."
CENTRE COUNTY.—On Tuesday the 4th inst., Pleasant Gap was visited by one of the severest gales of wind known to the oldest inhabitants. A storm appeared to come from the south-west, and passed over a tract of country of the area of half a mile wide, destroying an immense amount of timber, and doing great damage to barns, sheds, fences, &c. The storm extended as far as Hubersburg, marking its progress along the valley with unroofed barns, dead cattle, fallen trees, and scattered fences. Fortunately no lives were lost. A disagreeable row occurred at Singing School in Horntown, on Saturday evening, between three men named Daniel Powers, John Dunkelberger and Jesse Steward. It appears that Dunkelberger and Steward were disturbing the school, and in the effort to make peace Powers was knocked down and considerably injured. Warrants have been issued for Dunkelberger and Steward.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY.—Mr. Hugh Kells, of Livermore, whilst felling a tree on the 21st Dec., was severely injured that he died the next day. A disagreeable row occurred at a bucket of hot water of a table on his head, scalding it so badly as to cause its death the second day after. . . . On Christmas morning, Jacob Reamer, son of Mr. Daniel Reamer, of Greensburg, had his face horribly burned by powder, while in the act of setting off a blast. He was leaning over the hole examining the charge, when some boy standing near, threw a fire cracker at him, which discharged the blast, the contents lodging in his face.

JEFFERSON COUNTY.—On Friday night, the 21st ult., the grocery of D. Rebenbeck of Brookville, was entered by some person, and robbed of near \$100. The burglar effected an entrance by cutting or breaking out a pane of glass in one of the windows in the lower part of the building, by which means he succeeded in unfastening the sash which was secured by a nail; the window unfastened he entered, he passed through the store room and up stairs where he found an old fashioned trunk, the lock of which he cut off with a knife, took the money and decamped, leaving Mr. R. minus \$100.

MIFFLIN COUNTY.—Mr. Lewis Wolfe was killed near Allentown on the 31st Dec., by a tree striking him which some others were felling. He was about 45 years old, was much esteemed, and leaves a wife and three children to deplore his loss.

FRANKLIN COUNTY.—Several weeks since, a woman living near Deer appeared to a fine large buck with a knife. Deer appear to be plenty in the South Mountain this winter.

The Standing Committees of the State Senate were announced on Monday. The committee on New Counties and County Seats consists of Messrs. Blood, Turney, Keller, Gregg and Scheil. The House committees had not been announced at our latest advices.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

JANUARY 4.—Congress met to-day. The Senate, after listening to appropriate speeches, left the old hall for the new one. The first business was the report of a bill from the Naval Committee providing for the construction of ten additional sloops of war. Mr. Mallory also introduced a bill to raise the pay of naval officers. The residue of the session was devoted to Mr. Johnson's motion, directing the Finance committee to investigate the expenditures of the public money, and to devise some means of retrenchment. A number of Senators spoke, all talking reform and differing only as to the committee to which the matter ought to be referred. The debate is pronounced unusually sensible and able. In the House, little noteworthy was done. Various reports were presented from the Standing Committees. The Indian Appropriation bill was discussed in Committee of the Whole.

JANUARY 5.—Notice was taken of the death of Gen. Quitman, both Houses adjourned after listening to tributes to his memory. The new Senator, Mr. Chesnut from South Carolina, took his seat. Mr. Seward offered a resolution which was adopted, instructing the Committee on the Judiciary to inquire as to the necessity of amending the slave-trade laws.

Jan. 6.—Mr. Seward presented to the Senate the Leavenworth Constitution, which was referred to the Committee on Territories. The French Spoliation bill was taken up on motion of Mr. Crittenden, who urged its passage. Upon the special order, being the Pacific Railroad bill, Mr. Bigler finished his speech, and was followed by Mr. Harlan, who urged the advantages of the Central route. Mr. Ward of Texas favored the parallel of 32 deg. Mr. Iveson of Georgia indulged in violent pro-slavery remarks respecting the "demon of Abolitionism" and Mr. Seward, in the course of a disunion speech, after sitting through which, the Senate adjourned. In the House, Mr. Craig of Missouri strove in vain to introduce a bill granting lands for railroads to Kansas and Nebraska. Mr. Colfax introduced his bill organizing the Territory of Colorado, to embrace the new gold region at Pike's Peak. In committee Mr. John Cochran explained and supported his bill consolidating and codifying the revenue laws. The Indian appropriation bill was taken up. Mr. Bryan of Texas and Mr. Giddings of Ohio had a lively passage-arms, Mr. Bryan threatening that Texas would go out of the Union unless the appropriation for fighting her Indians was passed, and Mr. Giddings suggesting the repeal of the resolution annexing Texas as a fair offset to the repeal of the Missouri Compromise.

JANUARY 7.—The Senate disposed of a good deal of routine business and received a number of petitions and resolutions. The Pacific Railroad bill coming up, Mr. Trumbull replied at length to Mr. Iveson's violent speech on Thursday. Mr. Shields favored the northern route to Puget's Sound. Mr. Doolittle moved an amendment, appointing a Board of three Engineers to survey the three routes and report upon the capabilities of each, and opening alternate sections of land on the route selected under the Homestead law to actual settlers. In the House a bill in favor of relief to the Gen. Armstrong claimants was reported by the Committee on Foreign Affairs. Mr. Phelps reported the Fortification Appropriation bill. Mr. Jones of Tennessee offered a resolution of inquiry respecting the bogus Agricultural Convention, now sitting in Washington, which was passed. In Committee the House passed eleven private bills.

Jan. 8.—Congress did little to-day. The Senate was not in session, and the House, although refusing to adjourn because the day was the anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans, did adjourn early in the day, after transacting a little business.

Among the many medicines offered to the public, Duvall's Galvanic Oil is surpassing all in amount of sales. A greater number of dozens of this medicine have been sold than of any other preparation—and why? Because it is a good article and is in demand. The sufferer will always have it.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOTICE.—At a meeting of the Managers of the Curwensville Bridge Company held on 31st Dec., 1858, a dividend of one dollar on each share of stock was declared, which will be paid to the stockholders, or their representatives, at any time after the 1st of February next, by calling on the Treasurer. JOHN IRVIN, Treasurer. Curwensville, January 12, 1859-3t.

FOR SALE OR RENT—A VALUABLE TAVERN STAND AND FARM of 80 acres of land, 65 of which are cleared and under cultivation, situated on Clearfield, Pa., on the main road leading from Clearfield town to Clearfield Bridge, in Clearfield county, Pa., and three miles from the former place. The house is large, new, well calculated for a tavern, and will command nearly all the custom of the water here during the freshets, which usually last from four to six weeks. There are also a good Barn, Wood Shed, Wash and Bake House, and various other buildings necessary for convenience and comfort. The terms of sale will be made easy—any four annual payments. For further information inquire of L. J. Crans, Esq., Dr. A. T. Schryver, James H. Larimer, Esq., Clearfield, or L. W. Weid, Glen Hope, Clearfield county, Pa. Possession can be given so that the buyer or renter can have the use of the premises, which alone will amount to more than double the rent. A. T. SCHRYVER. Clearfield, Pa., January 5, 1859-4t.

CARD.—Philadelphia, Pa.—The undersigned, the Founder and Publisher of Van Court's *Continental Detector*, desirous of retiring from the management of the paper, has sold the printing press and work in the paper to the undersigned, J. Inlay & Bicknell. Having published Van Court's *Continental Detector* since 1839, the undersigned reluctantly parts with his old friends and subscribers; but this reluctance is lessened by the conviction, that in Inlay & Bicknell's *Bank Note Reporter* they will receive a work that matches the times. Philadelphia, Dec. 20, 1858. J. VAN COURT.

NOTICE.—All Subscriptions to Inlay & Bicknell's *Bank Note Reporter* are Payable scrupulously in Advance. This is the oldest Bank Note Publication in the world. For thirty long years it has maintained an unimpaired reputation, and continues to be the necessary companion of all business people over the whole continent of America. *The Coin of the World*, now in press by Inlay & Bicknell, will be given gratuitously to all old and new subscribers. All Coin Charts, Guides and Manuals, as compared to this, may be considered waste paper. TERMS:—The Semi-Monthly, \$1.50 per annum; Monthly, \$1; Single Copies, at the Counter, 10 cents. Single copies, mailed, 12 cents. Address: INLAY & BICKNELL, No. 112 N. 2d St. Jan 12-3m. Box 1150, Post Office, PHILA., Pa.

TAKE NOTICE!—TAVERN KEEPERS and the public, that Gross & Kunkel, whole sale Grocers, Canal Street Wharf, Harrisburg, have on hand a large lot of Liquors at reduced prices, by the barrel or otherwise, to suit purchasers, consisting of the following:—
Pure Brandy, New England Rum, Old Rye Whiskey, Lisbon Wine, Domestic Brandy, Pure Holland Gin, Imported Whiskey, Blended Rye Whiskey, Port Wine, Peach Brandy, Madera Wine, Lavender Brandy, Pure Holland Gin, Cherry Brandy, Domestic Gin, Scotch Whiskey, and other Liquors.
Gross & Kunkel, Wholesale Grocers, Canal Street Wharf, between Water and State Streets, Harrisburg, Pa. Mar 10-58-1y.

JOSHUA S. JOHNSON, CABINET MAKER having fitted up a shop a few doors east of the "Old Jew Store," on Market street, desires to inform the community at large, that he keeps on hand a variety of *CABINET WORK*, at his shop, and that he manufactures to order (of superior finish) every description of Household and Kitchen furniture, among which are Centres, and Dining Tables; Mahogany and Chestnut Bureaus, Commodes and Fancy Bedsteads, Stands, Sofas, Cupboards, Seating Lounges, &c., which he is determined to dispose of at as cheap rates, for cash, as they can be purchased elsewhere. He has also a large assortment of the sort in the country. Persons wishing to buy furniture are invited to come to his shop and examine his articles, and judge for themselves of its quality and finish, before purchasing elsewhere. He feels confident that he can satisfy his customers in price and quality. *Orders received till 10 o'clock, in payment for furniture.* November 10, 1858. N. B. He is also prepared to make OFFICES in order on the shortest notice, and attend funerals with a hearse, when called upon. J. S. J.

SHERIFF'S SALES.—By virtue of a writ of *Venditioni Expositio* issued out of the Court of Common Pleas of Clearfield county, and to me directed by the Hon. the Court, I have on the 1st day of the month of January, 1859, at the Court House in the borough of Clearfield, Pa., the following described real estate, to-wit:

A certain tract of land, situated in Decatur township, Clearfield county, containing 122 acres, bounded by lands of John Price, Frank Johnson, and Peter Kuhnert, with about 30 acres cleared, with a house and barn thereon. Seized, taken in execution, and to be sold as the property of John Ryan.

A certain tract of land, situated in Curwensville, bounded by Filbert street on the west, an alley on south end, and George street on the north, having thereon erected a dwelling house, a barn, and other out-houses thereon. Seized, taken in execution, and to be sold as the property of Samuel B. Taylor.

A certain tract of land, situated in Morris township, Clearfield county, containing 122 acres, bounded by lands of John Price, Frank Johnson, and Peter Kuhnert, with about 30 acres cleared, with a house and barn thereon. Seized, taken in execution, and to be sold as the property of John Ryan.

A certain tract of land, situated in Curwensville, on the east side of Thompson street, containing about 50 acres, with a dwelling house, a barn, and other out-houses thereon. Seized, taken in execution, and to be sold as the property of John Ryan.

A certain tract of land, situated in Bell township, Clearfield county, containing 122 acres, bounded by lands of John Price, Frank Johnson, and Peter Kuhnert, with about 30 acres cleared, with a house and barn thereon. Seized, taken in execution, and to be sold as the property of John Ryan.

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consistent with the act of repeal itself. I do not doubt that the Legislature may alter, revoke, or annul, any existing bank charter, whenever in its opinion the continuance of the charter, may be injurious to the citizens of the Commonwealth. Any other construction of the constitutional provision would make the interests and safety of the public subservient to the gain of the private stockholder. Believing, therefore, that there is no want of power, I cannot refrain from expressing my decided opinion, that whenever it is clear that a bank is insolvent, or in great danger of becoming so, or whenever its privileges are used or abused as to seriously prejudice the interests of the public, it is the duty of the law-making power to protect the people, by destroying its corporate existence.

In this connection I deem it my duty to reiterate the views expressed in my inaugural address. I then stated, as my decided opinion, that there should be no further increase of banks or banking capital under the present system—expressed a decided hostility to the issue of notes of a small denomination—and recommended such a change in our laws relative to banks, their organization and management, as would at least secure beyond all question the prompt redemption of all bills or notes put in circulation by the several banking institutions of the Commonwealth.

Well satisfied of the imperfection of existing laws relative to banks and banking, I deem it a duty to inform the General Assembly that I cannot give the Executive approval to any bills chartering additional banks, or making a radical change in the entire system. It is but just to state that in my opinion a large majority of the banks of the Commonwealth are well and safely managed, and in a perfectly sound condition; but this is due to the honesty and intelligence of those having charge of them, rather than the efficiency of the laws. Under the management of incapable or dishonest men, experience has shown, that there is really but little if any security to the public in the regulations and restrictions now to be found in our banking code. True wisdom dictates a reformation.

The ruinous losses which have fallen upon the people during the financial pressure of the past eighteen months, suggest the necessity of preventing their recurrence. Although many causes may have combined to produce these disasters, it is too plain to admit of doubt that our banking system has been one of the most prominent. The value of the precious metals—the price of property—and the wages of labor—are always affected by the abundance or scarcity of the paper medium received as a substitute for gold and silver coin. The power of the States to authorize a paper currency, through the agency of banks, has been so long exercised, and acknowledged, throughout the Union, that it is no longer an open question. But it must be acknowledged that the power has been greatly abused. The delegation of this attribute of sovereignty to a number of irresponsible corporations, without proper checks to limit its exercise, and without providing any security whatever for the redemption of the issues thus authorized, has been attended with evils of the most alarming character. The corporations are practically made the exclusive judges of the amount of paper currency to be furnished to the people, and have the exclusive power to contract or expand their circulation at pleasure. Depositors and other ordinary creditors of banks, need no legislation for their protection.

Every one who has direct dealings with these institutions, either as depositor or otherwise, enters into such engagements voluntarily, for his own advantage, and may be safely left to his own vigilance, and the ordinary remedies of the law, for his protection. But the millions of people engaged in industrious pursuits, the farmer—the mechanic—the merchant—and the laboring man—are under an imperious necessity to receive for their merchandise and their labor, the ordinary paper currency of the country. It is impossible for persons of this description to investigate the concerns of every institution whose notes are in circulation. But no investigation could save them from losses arising from the defaults and frauds of bank officers and insolvency of bank borrowers.

The note holders of banks have peculiar claims to the protection of the government. They are involuntary creditors, who are forced to receive the notes authorized by the government. They have no direct dealings with the banks. They do not trust the banks nor have in passing gold and silver coin. They constitute almost the entire community, and the humble and ignorant are always the greatest sufferers when a bank fails to redeem its notes. The whole people are therefore deeply interested in the security of the circulation allowed by law, although many of them may never have a share of bank stock, or be within a hundred miles of its place of business. The government that authorizes the issue of a paper currency is under a high moral obligation to require ample and available security for its redemption.

The certificates of loan issued by the General Government, or by this Commonwealth, at a value to be fixed upon, with the power to require additional deposit of security, from time to time, as the loans depreciate in the market, would be as safe and available as any guaranty which would be provided.

A law requiring all issues of banks hereafter organized, to be secured by the pledge of these loans, would enhance the value of the present loans, and thus give the holders a premium not contemplated when they became purchasers, and for which they never gave any valuable consideration. This enhanced value would be derived from a privilege granted by the State, and the State ought, therefore, to have the benefit of it, as far as this may be secured by legislation. The recent amendment of the Legislature in creating State debts, with an exception in favor of the debts contracted to redeem the present outstanding indebtedness of the State. A law authorizing new State loans for the purpose of redeeming the present over due debt, would be within the constitutional exception, and would be free from objection on constitutional grounds.

The new loans thus authorized, redeemable at the expiration of twenty years, with the banking privilege attached to them, would undoubtedly sell at a high premium. The proceeds of their sale could be applied to the payment of the present State debt, now overdue, amounting to more than seventeen millions of dollars. Under this system the State loans would no longer be held by foreigners, and the semi-annual shipments of specie, to pay interest, would therefore cease.

As the currency would be limited to the amount actually secured, the danger from expansions, which have heretofore stimulated the incautious to embark in ruinous enterprises in overtrading, and in extravagance in their expenditures, would be greatly lessened, if not entirely overcome. As the securities would be in the hands of a high and responsible officer of the State, who would be authorized for the purpose of redeeming the circulation, from losses continually arising from unsafe

currency, cannot longer be delayed without a manifest disregard of the public interest. The subject is therefore commended to your early attention.

The Governor refers to the report of the "Mexico Monument" Committee; states that they cannot build for less than \$300,000; that they had not sufficient funds, and await further legislation.

The Militia Law of 1858 has not been fully tested, but it is believed to be, in the main, an improvement on the laws in force at the time of its passage. One of its best features, and one that should be strictly enforced, is that the system is self supporting. In no contingency should the department be a charge upon the public treasury in time of peace.

The State Treasurer receives and disburses between four and five millions of dollars annually; and it not infrequently happens that there is a balance in the Treasury exceeding one million of dollars. The bond of the Treasurer is about eighty thousand dollars. He deposits the money of the State wherever he pleases, and it is paid exclusively on his own check. The monthly settlements with the Auditor General afford some security that the funds of the Commonwealth will not be misapplied; but it is entirely inadequate to the complete protection of the public interests.

Until the State shall adopt a different system for the collection, safe-keeping and disbursement of her revenues, the money on hand must be kept either in the Treasury vault, or deposited with the banking institutions of the State. For many years the latter mode has been adopted. I respectfully recommend that provision be made by law that no money shall be deposited in any bank by the State Treasurer without requiring security to be first given to the Commonwealth for the repayment of the sums deposited—that checks issued by the State Treasurer shall be countersigned by the Auditor General before they are used—and that daily accounts of the moneys received and paid shall be kept in the Treasury vault, or deposited with the banking institutions of the State. For many years the latter mode has been adopted. I respectfully recommend that provision be made by law that no money shall be deposited in any bank by the State Treasurer without requiring security to be first given to the Commonwealth for the repayment of the sums deposited—that checks issued by the State Treasurer shall be countersigned by the Auditor General before they are used—and that daily accounts of the moneys received and paid shall be kept in the Treasury vault, or deposited with the banking institutions of the State.

The various charitable and reformatory institutions, which have heretofore received pecuniary assistance from the State, such as the State Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb, Western Pennsylvania Hospital at Pittsburg, the House of Refuge, at Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, the Pennsylvania Training School for idiotic and feeble-minded children, the Asylum for the Blind and Deaf and Dumb, at Philadelphia, the Northern Home for Friendless Children, at Philadelphia—I recommend to your fostering aid and care. I cannot recommend appropriations to charitable associations, a purely local character, however praiseworthy the object and motives of their founders and supporters; or however useful they may be to their particular localities.

The present condition of the revenues of the General Government, demonstrate the urgent necessity of increased duties upon foreign importations. The people of Pennsylvania have ever taken a lively interest in the proper adjustment of a tariff; and they have done so singularly uniformly, at all times, favored such an assessment of duties, as would not only produce revenue, but furnish the largest incidental protection to the great mineral, manufacturing, and industrial interests of the country. Had their voices heretofore been more potential in the councils of the nation, it is no longer problematical that much of the pecuniary distress lately experienced by all classes and conditions of business men might have been to a great extent averted.

The necessities of the government and the people, now alike demand a change—an increase of duties—and I take great pleasure in endorsing the views of the President of the United States as expressed in his last annual message, relative to the change proposed. His advocacy of specific duties on all commodities which are generally sold by weight, or by measure, and which from their nature are general or nearly equal in value, such as iron of different classes, raw sugar, and foreign wines and spirits, has met with a hearty response from the great body of the people in this State. It is to be hoped that his views on this question will be favorably regarded by Congress, and that the action of the federal government may correspond with the suggestions of the President.

When I was called upon to assume the gubernatorial chair, nearly one year ago, in deference to public opinion, and my own feelings, after a rapid review of events in Kansas, I stated that to the people of Pennsylvania the admission of a new State into the Union—into that Confederacy of which she is a member—must be at all times a subject of high interest. And I believe I express their sentiments as well as my own in declaring that all the qualified electors of a Territory should have a full and fair opportunity to participate in selecting delegates to form a constitution preparatory to admission as a State, and, if desired by them, they should also be allowed an unqualified right to vote upon such constitution after it is framed.

Subsequent events have confirmed me in these sentiments. The present dispute in the first session of the present Congress—the popular excitement resulting from those disputes, together with other proceedings in their nature novel and alarming, would all have been averted, had the people been secured in "the unqualified right" to vote upon their domestic institutions. I regret to be compelled to say, that under various pretences, this sacred franchise has been virtually withheld from them. When they refused to accept the Leocompton Constitution made for them by delegates representing the minority, they were explicitly denied the privilege of making their own constitution, unless upon a condition not previously exacted. If they accepted the Leocompton Constitution, they entered the sisterhood of States at once, with a population less than one half of the existing ratio of Congressional representation; but if they refused that Constitution, they could not be admitted into the Union, with the Constitution of their choice, until they were ready to show by a formal census they had attained a population equal to that ratio. The results have become historical.

The last expressive vote of the people of Kansas against the act of Congress, commonly known as the English Bill, has for a time arrested Congressional intervention. Peace has resulted from the votes of the people. But, during the angry feelings which this controversy has aroused, the theory has been started, and insisted upon, that it will henceforward be the duty of Congress to protect slavery in the territories, if the people of the territories shall fail to do so. The warrant for this extraordinary assumption is alleged to exist in the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, in the case of Dred Scott. Entertaining, as I do, profound reverence for the decisions of that august tribunal, and standing ready to obey them, whenever they are enacted, I have yet to be convinced that any such construction can be fairly given to their action in the case referred to. Such a doctrine, no matter how sanctioned, or supported, will shake the very pillars of our constitutional fabric. It would compel every other eligible property in slaves above every other description of property,—and to establish a

slave code in its early municipal regulations; or else it would convert the Congress into a theatre of crimination and confusion, and fill the whole country with strife. And all this, without securing a single advantage to the North, or protecting a single right of the South.

Regarding myself as fully committed to the doctrine of popular sovereignty in its broadest sense, I can never subscribe to the theory of Congressional intervention, as understood and supported by the opponents of this doctrine. By popular sovereignty, I mean no violation of the rights of the States—no assault upon the institutions of the South—no appeal to sectional prejudices. On the contrary, I regard the doctrine as the embodiment of the popular will in States and Territories, as the conservator of the rights and the equality of States and people—and as the only means by which a vexed and dangerous agitation will be satisfactorily and perpetually "settled."

A theory equally heretical has been advanced in another portion of the Union. It has been held that this government, divided into free and slave States, as it was framed by our revolutionary fathers, cannot endure—that all must become free, or all become slave. When such a doctrine shall be enforced, the constitution will have been subverted—State sovereignty prostrated—State rights disregarded, and the liberty of the people destroyed. It should meet an indignant rebuke from every lover of his country, and the blood bought right of the people and the States to self-government.

The Governor congratulates the people that by various amendments to the Constitution, gubernatorial patronage has been transferred to them, but he states that the Executive is not now so able to maintain the rights of the State against federal or other encroachments, and goes in for State rights as the doctrine of true liberty.

Having now discharged the duty imposed on the Executive by the constitution, I cannot conclude without congratulating you upon the peculiarly favorable auspices under which you enter upon the duties of the Session of 1859. Few important subjects of legislation press upon your attention. Prudence, firmness, fidelity—a watchful regard for the interests of the Commonwealth—a jealous guardianship of her finances—on the part of the government—are all that are required, under Providence, to ensure the continuance and increase of our onward prosperity. Pennsylvania may then, at no remote period, rejoice in the extinguishment of her public debt—the repeal of her onerous and burdensome taxes—a fame and credit unattainable—a free and popular educational system—and an industrious and loyal people, prosperous and happy.

WILLIAM F. PACKER.
Executive Chamber, Harrisburg, Jan. 5, 1859.

Raftsmen's Journal.



S. B. ROW, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

CLEARFIELD, PA., JAN. 12, 1859.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.—We publish this week the annual message of Gov. Packer. It is of reasonable length, and a very creditable document. The financial condition of the Commonwealth is set forth in a clear and comprehensive manner. The policy of selling the Public Works of the State is vindicated and approved; and our system of education referred to in liberal and approving terms. The Governor deprecates the increase of banks or banking capital under the present system, and gives the Legislature to understand that he will not sanction the chartering of any more institutions, unless a radical change is introduced. On the subject of the tariff, he recommends a return to specific duties, which is the true policy of the country. In referring to the Kansas question, the Governor states his opposition to Congressional intervention in any manner in which it may present itself—in other words, he is Anti-Leocompton.

UNPRECEDENTED SUCCESS.—We are glad to learn that the *Atlantic Monthly* is meeting with great favor from all sources. Though the publishers printed nearly thirty thousand copies of the January number, this large supply was entirely exhausted on the very day of publication, thus compelling many new subscribers and others to wait a few days before obtaining a copy. The publishers have another edition of several thousand in press, which will be ready in a few days, and with their present facilities they will be able to supply the demand, however large it may be. Their subscriptions, received by mail alone from all parts of the country, have averaged more than one hundred a day, for some time past. Mrs. H. B. Stowe's new serial, "The Minister's Wooing," is immensely popular, as indicated by the success which is thus attending the enterprising publishers' efforts to make the *Atlantic* the embodiment of all that is entertaining and instructive. Price, \$5 per year, in advance. We will furnish the *Atlantic Monthly* and *Raftsmen's Journal*, for \$3.50, in advance.

THE PROPOSED TERRITORIES.—"Dacotha" is the western half of what was Minnesota Territory. When the State was formed, a line was drawn through the middle of the Territory from north to south. The eastern part became the State of Minnesota—the western is unorganized and without a Government. "Arizona" is a combination of the south part of New Mexico with that Mesilla Valley strip of land which we purchased from Mexico in 1853. The latter is without a local Government. "Nevada" is the western half of Utah, lying between Salt Lake and California. "Laramie" means the western part of Nebraska, in which the fort of that name is situated. "Pike's Peak" is in the Rocky Mountain chain in the western part of Kansas, which part it is proposed to cut off for the new Territory. "Superior" or "Ontonagon" is the peninsula between Lakes Superior and Michigan, part of which now belongs to Michigan, and part to Wisconsin.