

From the South.

The southern mail regularly due last night, including New Orleans papers of the 11th inst. furnishes no news from the army.

The barque *Cosca*, recently seized off Alvarado by the U. S. Squadron, arrived at New Orleans on the 10th instant, in charge of Passed Midshipman Barrett.

The New Orleans Delta learns by this arrival, that the Mexican prize schooner *Telegraph*, taken by the United States steamship *Mississippi* off Tobasco, was brought up to the fleet on the 16th ultimo, the day before Midshipman Barrett left.

When the fleet under Com. Perry had been last heard from they were immediately off Tobasco, and were waiting for a violent swell to subside before passing over the bar to attack the place—every man being eager for the fray.

The squadron consisted of the *Mississippi* (flag-ship), Com. Perry; the *Vixen*, Com'r Sands; revenue cutter *McLann*, Captain Howard; revenue cutter *Forward*, Captain Nones; prize schooner *Nonetta*, Lieut. Hazard; schooner *Reflex*, Lieut. Sterrett; and schooner *Bonita*.— Besides these, there were twelve cutters, designed for taking the forces ashore, which, besides the crews of the respective vessels, number two hundred men, principally marines from the *Raritan* and *Cumberland*.

Midshipman Barrett brought up with him in the *Cosca*, three men-of-war servants, her captain, and three of her crew. She was, when seized, a double crew.

It is known that the brig *Plymouth*, from New Orleans, discharged her cargo, believed to be in part fire-arms, at Alvarado some time before the seizure of the *Cosca*.

AFFAIRS IN CALIFORNIA.

Proclamation of Commodore Stockton to the People of California.—On my approach to this place with the forces under my command, Jose Castro, the commandant general of California, buried his artillery, and abandoned his fortified camp of the *Mesa*, and fled, it is believed, towards Mexico.

With the sailors, the marines, and the California battalion of mounted riflemen, we entered the "City of Angels," the capital of California, on the 13th of August, and hoisted the North American flag.

The flag of the United States is now flying from every commanding position in the territory, and California is entirely free from Mexican dominion.

The territory of California now belongs to the United States, and will be governed as soon as circumstances may permit, by officers and laws similar to those by which the other territories of the United States are regulated and protected.

But until the governor, the secretary and council are appointed, and the various civil departments of the government are arranged, military law will prevail, and the commander-in-chief will be the governor, and protector of the Territory.

In the mean time the people will be permitted, and are now requested to meet in their several towns and departments, at such time and place as they may see fit, to elect civil officers to fill the places of those who decline to continue in office, and to administer the laws according to the former usages of the territory.

In all cases where the people fail to elect, the commander-in-chief and governor will make the appointments himself. All persons, of whatever religion or nation, who faithfully adhere to the new government, will be considered as citizens of the territory, and will be zealously and thoroughly protected in the liberty of conscience, their persons and property.

No person will be permitted to remain in the territory who do not agree to support the existing government, and all the military men who desire to remain, are required to take an oath that they will not take up arms against it, or do anything to disturb its peace.

Nor will any persons, come from where they may, be permitted to settle in the territory, who do not pledge themselves to be, in all respects, obedient to the laws which may be from time to time enacted by the proper authorities of the territory. All persons who, without special permission, are found with arms, outside of their own houses, will be considered as enemies, and will be shipped out of the country.

All thieves will be put to hard labor on the public works, and there kept until compensation is made for the property stolen.

The California battalion of mounted riflemen will be kept in the service of the territory, and constantly on duty, to prevent and punish any aggressions by the Indians, or any other persons, upon the property of individuals, or the peace of the territory; and California shall hereafter be so governed and defended as to give security to the inhabitants, and to defy the power of Mexico.

It is required that all persons shall remain in their houses from ten at night until sunrise in the morning during the time this territory is under military law.

Signed, R. F. STOCKTON, Commander in Chief and Governor of the territory of California.

CITY OF THE ANGELS, California, August 17, 1846.

To the People of California: On the 15th of September, 1846, an election will be held in the several towns and districts of California, at the place and hours at which such elections have usually been held, for the purpose of electing the alcaldes and other municipal officers.

In those places where alcaldes have been appointed by the present government,

they will hold the election. In places where no alcaldes have been appointed by the present government, the former alcaldes are authorized and required to hold the election.

Given under my hand, this 22d day of August, anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, at the Government House, "Ciudad de los Angeles."

Signed, R. F. STOCKTON, Commander in Chief and Governor of the territory of California.

Dreadful Floods in France.

The Paris papers of the 23d and 24th of October contain the particulars of the inundations by which several of the French provinces have been fearfully devastated.

It appears, says the National, that every scourge has this year fallen on our unfortunate country. Incendiary fires lighted by unknown hands have carried desolation into several departments, the death of provisions has increased the distress, and at present the rivers are overflowing, and the inundations ravage what has escaped the fires. Entire villages have been swept away; bridges, viaducts, and considerable buildings have fallen to pieces. The loss is not yet ascertained, nor is the number of victims yet known; but the letters received from the scene of desolation, are filled with lamentations. The devastations caused by the overflowing of the Loire have been dreadful.

The communication between Paris, Lyons, Avignon, Marseilles, and all the southeastern regions of France, is completely cut off by the inundations. The accounts are, almost necessarily, imperfect, and often contradictory; one thing, however, is certain, that the magnificent bridge over the Loire at Orleans, the viaduct connecting the Orleans and Vierzon railway with the terminus in that city, has been swept away by the resistless fury of the torrent. It cost 6,000,000 francs in the erection, and will probably delay the opening of that line for at least two years to come.

The Semaphore de Marseilles, of the 20th inst., mentions that during the last twenty days it had rained incessantly in the south of France. The rivers have gone, the Durance, the Rhone, and their tributaries, had overflowed their banks, and on several occasions, interrupted the communications. On the night of the 19th the lower part of Avignon was under water. At Tarascon, the Rhone had risen, on the 18th, nearly twenty feet above its usual level, and the inhabitants apprehended a recurrence of the disasters of 1840. At Andrieux, the part of the town situated on the Rhone has been levelled, comprising eighteen houses, and all the traces of the adjoining railroad are lost. The barracks of the gendarmerie are but a heap of ruins, and several persons perished.

The number of houses destroyed at Roanne amount to 115, and 400 boats laden with merchandise, lying in the Loire or in the canal, and made fast to the quay, 270 were sunk. The most fatal episode of the disastrous day of the 19th, at Roanne, was the loss of the municipal councillor, Merle, his son, and some other persons, who were upset in a boat within sight of hundreds of spectators and perished.

At three o'clock on the morning of the 19th, the Loire rose suddenly, and overwhelmed the whole of the lower part of Nevers, and, joining the Nièvre, formed an immense lake, under which had disappeared part of the faubourgs of Mousse, Nièvre, and Loire, and which extended to Plagny. Here and there were seen floating timber, trees, cattle, and cries of distress were heard at every point. In an instant the whole garrison was assembled at the scene of distress. Their object was to save the population of the faubourg Saint Antoine, and the inhabitants of the isolated houses in the country.

A Bordeaux journal of the 21st gives the following account of the loss of the diligence, near Feurs: "The diligence, in which there were eleven persons, was carried away by the flood, and only three persons escaped."

A Blois journal says: "All the accounts that we receive from the lower part of the Loire are distressing. It is said that at Ambuse twenty-six persons perished in an inn. A great portion of the railroad has been carried away."

A letter from Tours of the 24th says: "It is only owing to the rapidity with which precautions were adopted that the greater part of the city is not under water. As it is, the faubourg of St. Symorien is inundated. In some places the water is more than nine feet deep. In the church, the water is about three feet deep, and part of the wall of the cemetery has been washed down."

Letters from Cherbourg state that the French government have completed a contract with a private company respecting the navigation between France and New York. By this contract the government cedes to the company, for ten years, the four transatlantic steamers, the *Ullon*, the *Darien*, the *Christophe Colomb*, and the *Canada*, vessels of nearly 2,000 tons, and of 450-horse power, on condition that the vessels be insured for 12,000,000 francs, and that Cherbourg be the port of arrival and departure. By the terms of the treaty, they are to commence running on the 1st of December next, but it is thought probable that they will not be ready till the beginning of next year.

Marshal Bourmont died at his chateau, in Anjou, on Wednesday last, in the 73d year of his age.

The American Bible Society issued during the month of September, 70,000 Bibles and testaments, and about the same number in October, and yet are unable to meet the demand for them.

Democratic Banner.

CLEARFIELD, PA. Nov. 27, 1846.

Temperance Meeting.

The Clearfield county Washingtonians will hold their next quarterly meeting on Monday evening of the December court, in the court house. All the friends of temperance are requested to attend as business of importance is to be transacted.

WM. RADEBAUGH, Sec'y.

Nov. 24th.

OUR MERCHANTS.—By taking a look at our advertising columns our readers will see that our merchants have generally supplied their shelves with a stock of new and seasonable goods. Their assortment is large, and we believe the selections are the best ever brought to the county.

Congress meets at Washington on the first Monday (7th) of December next.

How we should Act.

A number of papers having already declared their preference for the next Democratic candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania, we have thought proper to say a word—not with respect to men, but measures. The utmost caution and prudence should be exercised in all our primary movements, so as to allay all discordant feelings, if any exists, and to suppress such feelings, should any arise. That we were defeated at the late election by a want of harmony of action and sentiment, no one doubts—and to prevent a similar recurrence of fortune, it is only necessary that the people—and not the politicians—should take up the subject of selecting the candidates of the Democratic party for Governor and Canal Commissioner in 1847.

If it could be so, we would like to see the next 4th of March convention composed entirely of men "fresh from the ranks of the people"—men who are Democrats from principle, and not from interest. Neither trading politicians nor hungry office hunters should have a seat in that convention. And they should go there untrusting—though not ignorant of the feelings and wishes of their constituents. Let them there consult together, fully and unreservedly, without fear, favor, or prejudice, and let the choice of the majority be harmoniously concurred in by every district. Candidates thus selected would be sustained by the largest majority ever given to any candidate in the State.

While we avow ourselves the friend and advocate of the candidates—be they whom they may—we may be permitted to say that the much cherished *one term principle* has no charms for us. If a public officer disappoints the expectations of the people, let the people refuse him their support, and choose another; but for the Democratic party of Pennsylvania at this time to adopt an *old song* got up by the whigs in the memorable *hard rider* campaign, merely for the purpose of gratifying the peculiar prejudices of a few individuals, is a work, in the completion of which, we cannot lend any assistance. Our constitution contemplates *two terms* for the Governor, and the Democratic party have adopted it as a rule, provided they done their duty the first term. The question therefore, for the people now to decide, is, has Gov. Shunk performed his duty to the State and to his party? and, can he be re-elected?

If he has, and if the convention upon candid and serious reflection—having a full knowledge of the wishes of the people in all parts of the State before them—think that he can again carry us in triumph thro' another contest with Federalism and its various cohorts, he should be nominated without a dissenting voice. But success should be our main object. All things else, (except principles and a regard for the honor of the State) should yield to this important consideration. If a new man can be selected upon whom a larger vote can be concentrated, let such an one be selected, and we are sure that no part of the democracy of the State would more earnestly support such a nominee than Gov. Shunk himself. Let such sentiments govern the actions of all others in like manner, and all will be well. Let the people take up the subject in good earnest, and not the office-hunters. This is all that is necessary to ensure a success even more triumphant than that of 1844.

"MONEY MAKES THE MAN."—The Federalists of Philadelphia are to give Daniel Webster a dinner on next Thursday—the tickets for which are put at five dollars a piece, that will have to be a good speech of the God-like's, or the ticket buyers will pay "too dear for the whistle."

UNITED STATES LOAN.—The five million loan advertised by the Secretary of the Treasury has already been taken. The amount offered exceeded six million—the offers mostly at par.

HOLD THEM TO IT.—We hope the people will remember that the Whig party are pledged to a "restoration" of the Tariff of '42. Senator Clayton, of Delaware, gave it to them as their watchword, and it was adopted by their presses and mouth-pieces every where; and we now hope the people will hold them to it, and not permit them to change their position upon this question, as they are in the habit of doing, and come out in favor of the "British Free Trade Tariff of 1846," and thus steal our democratic thunder. Let the issue remain, as they have made it, the Tariff of '42, as it is—or the Tariff of '46, with a proper increase of protection on coal (only) when such increase is found to be necessary to enable those articles to compete with foreign importations. Already we see ominous signs among the Whigs in various quarters of a desire to waken their tone on this question, and unless General Irvin, one of their prominent candidates for Governor, and an extensive iron master to boot, is greatly misrepresented, he is himself in favor of the Tariff of '46; or at least says that the protection afforded by that bill on Iron, is as high as it should be.

The volunteer regiment of Pennsylvania infantry are to rendezvous at Pittsburg, when they will be mustered into the service of the United States. Ten companies, of eighty privates each, will be required to complete the regiment. Captains are to report themselves and their commands to Adj't Gen. Bowman, at Harrisburg, where the required number will be selected in the order in which their reports are received.

A SUDDEN CHANGE.—This time last week the weather was warm and pleasant, almost enough so to do without fire. Now it is first rate winter—except that the foundation for our snow is rather soft, and makes rather poor sleighing. This is the proper season for such weather, but really it seems to have taken us all by surprise.

We have received a letter from the author of a communication which we deferred publishing, and which we noticed a few weeks ago, in which he insists on having his arguments laid before the public—observing that he only asks his sentiments to be delivered in his own language. We shall endeavor to accommodate our respected friend in our next.

THE STEAMER GREAT BRITAIN.—An American, by the name of McIntosh, has made a contract with the owners of that vessel to take her off the sand on the coast of Ireland, where she was ran on her first passage out—this too, after the undertaking had been pronounced useless by the best of English engineers. The yankees forever!

The Harrisburg "Union" says there has been a potato left at that office measuring thirty two inches in circumference.—This was raised in Dauphin county. Can't some one of our Clearfield "uter growers" beat it?

General Markle has written a letter to the Whigs withdrawing his name from the list of Whig candidates for Governor. The contest for the Whig nomination now lies between Stewart, Forward, Cooper, and Irvin. Neither of them can make as good a race as General Markle did. Mark that.

AFFECTING SCENE.—Four lads were brought before the Mayor this week for disorderly conduct in front of the Arch street theatre on the evening previous.—After hearing the statement of the Watchman, the Mayor enquired of each of them where he lived, and what employment or business he pursued. One of them, who was thus questioned, stated that his mother was dead, that he was not an apprentice but was hired; and to the inquiry as to his age, he said he was thirteen. His appearance indicating that he was older, his Honor asked what year he was born in, when he replied that he did not know. Here the tears came into his eyes, and to the further enquiries whether he could read, or whether he had ever gone to school, his answers were in the negative, accompanied with a profusion of tears, and with sobs that almost choked his utterance. The lad was no doubt sixteen or seventeen years of age, and his manner was that of one possessing a heart well disposed, and keenly sensitive to the deplorably dark and unintelligent state of mind which was his unfortunate lot. His case is a sad commentary upon the state of our youthful classes in many parts of our city and county, and one that cannot fail to excite sympathy for him, and others in like condition.—*Neal's Gazette.*

Murderous Outrage by the "Killers."—The gang of outlaws in Moyamensing, who are banded under the name of "Killers," openly encouraged as they are by the authorities of the district in which they have their abode, appear determined to stop at the commission of no outrage, however high-handed and flagrant. On

Monday evening, at the early hour of seven o'clock, they wantonly assailed, at the corner of Seventh and Shippen streets, an offending colored man from the country, and knocking him down, stabbed him in nearly a dozen places on his breast, arms and shoulders. Two or three of the ruffians actually got astride of him while he was prostrate in the street, and inflicted the wounds upon his body with the ferocity of so many demons. After having, as they supposed, murdered their victim, they fled. The wounded man was taken to the hospital, where his situation being deemed extremely critical, Alderman Shermer was sent for and took his deposition. The patient was doing well, though not out of danger. Notwithstanding the number of stabs he received, none of them reached a vital part. The perpetrators of this bold attempt at murder, enacted as it were before the very eyes of the police of Moyamensing, are all at large, and not one of them probably will ever be brought to justice. The name of the colored man is James McDowell. He comes, we believe from the neighborhood of Burlington, N. Jersey.—*Neal's Gazette.*

Distressing Sight.—A very respectable looking female, with a fine hearty boy in her arms, was charged before the Mayor this morning with having been intoxicated and lying in the street with the babe by her side on last evening. She said she was direct from Princeton, and had never before tasted of the "Secret Murderer," that trouble was the cause. She was discharged upon her promise to return home. *Scott's (Phila.) Paper.*

FATAL AFFRAY.—A German by the name of Smith, residing in the vicinity of Elkton, Md., who kept a place for the sale of liquor, was recently prosecuted for disorder, when he moved his shop over the line into Delaware. On Saturday last an affray occurred between Smith and a person named Edward Updegrave on the grove, when the latter was stabbed in the side, just below the ribs, from the wound of which he afterwards died. Smith was arrested night before last for the murder, and is now in prison at Elkton to await his trial. Our informant states that another person, named William —, was, during the affray, cut in the shoulder.—*Id.*

TALL BRAGGING.—An English Journal thus boasts of the power and extent of the English Government: "The Queen of England is now sovereign over one continent, a hundred peninsulas, five hundred promontories, a thousand lakes, two thousand rivers and ten thousand islands! She waves her hand, and five hundred thousand warriors march to battle, to conquer or to die. She bends her head, and at the signal a thousand ships of war and a hundred thousand sailors perform her bidding on the ocean. She walks upon the earth, and one hundred and twenty millions of human beings feel the slightest pressure of her footsteps. Come, all conquerors, and kneel before the Queen of England, and acknowledge the vastly superior extent of her dependent provinces, her subjugated kingdoms, and her vanquished empires. The Assyrian Empire was not so wealthy; the Roman Empire was not so populous; the Persian Empire was not so extensive; the Arabian Empire was not so powerful; the Carthaginian Empire was not so dreaded; the Spanish Empire was not so wisely diffused. We have overthrown a greater extent of country than Attila ever ruled. We have subdued more kings than Alexander of Macedonia. We have conquered more nations than Napoleon, in the plenitude of his power, ever subdued. We have acquired a larger extent of territory than Tamerlane, the Tartar, ever spurred his horse's hoofs across."

Tremendous Smash on the Portage Railroad.—Narrow Escape.—On Friday morning last a section boat which had come across the mountain on Trucks, got under headway at the foot of Plane 10 to run down to Hollidaysburg. Some of our readers perhaps, should be told that the grade of the road from Plane 10 to Hollidaysburg is sufficient to bring cars and trucks down by the force of their gravity, unaided or attended by locomotive or horse power. Upon the Trucks are "breaks," or rubbers, to hold them in check in descending the grades on the road. After this boat had got under headway, it was discovered that the breaks of the trucks were out of order and entirely useless! Those on board now saw that a run to Hollidaysburg at a fearful speed, and a smash at the end of the journey, was inevitable. Two or three we believe, leaped off, at imminent risk; but the Captain, his wife, and a boy remained aboard. Onward sped the boat, with increasing velocity, until, opposite the U. S. Hotel, she struck a train of six cars standing on the track—the first was instantly dashed to atoms, leaving not a wreck behind, and the other five were stove and wrecked but not utterly destroyed. The boat also was injured considerably, but remained on the trucks; and strange to say, those on board escaped without injury! The Cars belonged to Bingham's line; we did not learn who owned the boat. Such a fearful ride we think no one would agree to take for a dime of money.

We desire to avoid unjust censure in any quarter, but it does seem to us, that such a thing as the breaks of a "truck" being entirely out of order, ought not to escape the observation of those who are paid to have them kept in order. This accident may cost the tax-payers two or three thousand dollars, for ought we know.—*Hollidaysburg Register.*