

Tide Water Canal. At a preliminary meeting of citizens, held December 23, in the room of 'The Board of Trade,' at the exchange, GIDEON SCULL, was called to the chair, and John M. Kennedy appointed Secretary.

The chairman stated the object of the meeting to be to take measures for ascertaining whether the great bulk of the trade flowing through the Tide Water Canal to Havre de Grace, could not be secured to Philadelphia, by the co-operation of our citizens with the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Company, in procuring steam tow boats to tow the boats and merchandise to and from Philadelphia and Havre de Grace.

After a full consultation as to how far the meeting ought at that time to proceed, and a manifestation of unanimity of sentiment, that it ought to confine itself to gathering full information for future consideration on the following points—viz:

1st. How much money can be obtained to procure tow boats.

2d. How far will the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal act to secure with certainty the trade.

3d. What boats can be procured, their character, cost, etc., and what description of boats is necessary.

Whereupon the following resolutions were adopted:

1st. That a committee of seven, with authority to their number, be appointed, to obtain subscriptions and contributions to a fund, for providing means to tow boats with merchandise to and from Philadelphia and Havre de Grace; and that the said committee be directed, as soon as practicable, to convene those subscribing and contributing to said fund in general meeting, for considering and determining the best plan of pursuing such towage, when Messrs. Gideon Scull, David S. Brown, Wm. Reynolds, Allen R. Reeves, Henry Budd, Wm. V. Anderson, J. S. Newbold, Isaac S. Waterman, Newberry Smith, Jr., J. W. Kelly, William B. Hart, Daniel Haddock, Solomon Aler, and John M. Kennedy were appointed said committee.

2d. That a committee of three be appointed to confer with the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Company on the subject of their co-operation in establishing sufficiently low tolls, aiding in maintaining steam tow boats, etc., when Messrs. Samuel C. Morton, James M. Bolton, and Archibald Wright were appointed said committee.

3d. That a committee of three be appointed to ascertain what steamboats suitable for towing boats to and from Havre de Grace and Philadelphia can be procured; their character, cost, etc., and report the same, with any other facts pertinent in their judgment to the subject—when Messrs. Joseph Hand, N. B. Thompson, and James Barrett were appointed said committee.

On motion, adjourned.

GIDEON SCULL, Chairman. John M. Kennedy, Secretary.

Hall Road Accident.

The New York Courier and Enquirer of Monday says:—On Friday afternoon, as a new and powerful locomotive to which heavy freight cars were attached, was approaching the depot at Springfield, Mass., the engineer found it impossible to stop her, and she was driven with full steam into the depot. Another locomotive was on the track inside, and the concussion was so great that both engines and a considerable portion of the buildings were destroyed; four men were killed and some others much hurt; two men employed in the depot were killed by the falling of the timbers upon them, besides the engineer and fireman of the locomotive which caused the mischief.

A letter to the editors of the Journal of Commerce furnishes the following particulars:

The freight train, consisting of thirty-three loaded cars, attached to the new and powerful engine, "Massachusetts," in descending the inclined plane, became unmanageable, although the engine was reversed and the brakemen were at their posts. It arrived at the depot with great velocity, and passed through the passenger house; the switch rail being changed, the train then took the direction of the engine house, in which were the master-mechanic and two or three others, expecting the arrival of the locomotive, one of whom, on hearing its approach, was in the act of opening the door, unconscious of danger, when it burst in upon him, demolishing the door and a large portion of the brick wall; then rushed to the opposite side of the house, where it came in contact with another engine "the Hampden," which was shoved ahead with tremendous force through the solid brick wall sixteen or eighteen inches thick; the Massachusetts following. Some five or six rods outside of the building, it came in contact with the wood pile, which arrested its progress, the Hampden having clambered up the wood pile six or eight feet from the ground, where she now lies a complete wreck. The Massachusetts is also entirely broken to pieces. Four dead bodies have been taken from under the ruins, which prove to be those of the men who were in the building, and one brakeman. The Engineer, Conductor, and one or two others, cleared themselves from the train a few feet from the engine house, and are said to be unhurt.

The Murderer of Ellen Jewett.

Robinson, the murderer of Ellen Jewett, whose trial and acquittal left a stain upon the tribunal before which he was arraigned, went to Texas, where he has since lost his right arm—that right arm which he planted a hatchet into the forehead of a girl, but to him an unoffending girl, and with which he then applied an incendiary torch to the bed where she lay weltering in blood, thus attempting to conceal the murder by committing arson—that right arm, we say, has been chipped from his shoulder, in a fight with the Mexicans.

Nor is this the only retribution that has visited the guilty. It will be recollected that Fu-long, the infatuated Grocer, who went into court and committed voluntary perjury by swearing that Robinson was in his store on the evening of the murder, became a maniac and drowned himself.—Aib Jour.

Bunker Hill Monument.

We learn from the Boston Morning Post the following particulars respecting the cost of the Bunker Hill Monument. The original cost, for the entire height of two hundred feet, as estimated by Mr. Willard, the architect, was \$67,000. The work, so far as built, had not exceeded this estimate. The receipts of the Association since its organization have been as follows:—

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. First subscription of members, \$54,010. Legislative donation, 10,000. Ladies' subscription, 2,500. Raised on mortgage of land and monument, 23,400. Subscription through Mechanics Society, 21,000. Lease of land, 1,359. Tax for ascending monument, about 2,000. Donations of two citizens, 30,000. Proceeds of September Fair, 1840, 32,000.

\$165,269

The mortgaged land was sold in October, 1831, for \$25,000, which paid that debt. The actual receipts, therefore, have been over \$166,000, which is much more than double the original estimate of the cost.

These facts are not stated to censure any one, but simply to justify the people of New England, who have been most unjustly charged with want of generosity and patriotism, in not completing the Monument. It will be seen that, at the first, a sum was promptly raised within three thousand dollars of the whole estimated cost. Having done that it was difficult to raise additional subscriptions after it was supposed the requisite sum had once been provided, and but for the ladies, it never could have been done. To them belongs the crowning honor of the achievement, and the lofty column, when completed, will be no less a monument of their perseverance and patriotism, than of the deeds of our fathers.—North American.

Coal direct to New York.

During the recent season upwards of 69,000 tons of coal were carried from our landing direct to N. Y. in boats, and next year the quantity will probably be increased to 80 or 100,000 tons. But three years ago, the experimental trip of carrying coal to New York direct, was made by our enterprising fellow-citizen, Mr. John M. Croeland, and like many other persons, who can see a little ahead of their neighbors, he was pronounced by some as crazy for embarking in this, as was then supposed, perilous undertaking. Our boatmen have profited considerably by his enterprise, and in investing the rewards of their honest industry—they ought not to forget those who contributed to their prosperity. Murr's Journal.

To the Editors of the National Gazette.

DEAR SIR: Since I wrote to you on the subject of the process for rock blasting by galvanic ignition, it has occurred to me that it might possibly be beneficial to the commerce of my native city to suggest the employment of that process in aid of our ice boats in the highly important object of breaking up the ice by which the navigation of the Delaware is liable at times to be obstructed.

I presume that if a cask replete with gunpowder were lowered through a hole in the ice by means of a competent rope, it might be drifted under the ice by the current. By means of cords formed of fine copper wire, and secured by binding them with twine along the rope, ignition might be communicated to the gunpowder agreeably to the process already described by me in the title which you republished on the 21st inst. It remains to be ascertained whether it would be preferable to employ a smaller number of large casks or a larger number of small ones. It occurs to me that if a quantity of gunpowder sufficiently large were exploded at the bottom of the river in deep water, it would raise a wave which would shatter the superincumbent ice to a vast distance, so that the current might carry it away.

I am, gentlemen, yours truly,

ROBERT HARE.

To Apprentices.

The only way for a young man to prepare himself for usefulness, is to devote himself to study, during the leisure hours. First be industrious in your business. Never complain that you are obliged to work; go to it with alacrity and cheerfulness, and it will become a habit that will make you respected by your employer and the community. Make it your business to see and promote his interest; by taking care of his you will learn to take care of your own. Second, attend to your studies. Few apprentices can complain of a harder master than had Franklin; yet Franklin laid the foundation for greatness while an apprentice. Success depends not upon the amount of leisure you have, but upon the manner in which it is improved.

Change of Fortune.

A young woman who had been sentenced to Blackwell's Island for petty larceny for three months, was yesterday discharged, her time having expired, while making preparation to leave, a gentleman who had but just heard of her whereabouts, came on the island with a trunk full of elegant clothing; and what was better, the information that one of her relatives in Ireland had died, and bequeathed her the sum of twenty thousand dollars. She left the prison elegantly dressed—and with a purse well filled with cash.—N. Y. Era.

The Rev. WALTER COTTOS, Chaplain in the U. S. Navy, and author of several charming works of foreign travel, has become editor of the Philadelphia North American. Well, misery loves company, and such company could we have enough of, it would enable us to bear lightly the pricks of the thorns that strew the path editorial. [N. Y. Com. Adc.]

THE "DECLINE OF THE DRAMA."—The President of the United States is not so highly paid as Miss Ellen Tree, and the Premier of Great Britain has not so large a salary as is demanded by Mr.

Macready. Many of the American and European "stars" demand as much for a night's performance as a good mechanic can earn in six months' time by hard labor.



THE AMERICAN.

Saturday, January 2, 1841.

Democratic Candidate for Governor, Gen. DAVID R. PORTER.

□ We have received a specimen number of the Daily Pennsylvania Intelligencer, published at Harrisburg by Messrs. Elliott & McCurdy. It is a very neatly executed sheet, and will be published daily during the session for three dollars. Our Whig friends and others, who desire a daily from Harrisburg could not do better than to subscribe for the Intelligencer.

Columbia County.

We have received the proceedings of the Columbia county delegate convention. John M' Reynolds and Owen D. Leib were appointed delegates to the 4th of March convention, and were intrusted to support the re-nomination of David R. Porter.

A Dear Child.

By the late arrival from England, it will be seen that Queen Victoria has presented her good-natured subjects with a new heir to the throne, in the shape of a flabby baby. It is said to be a very dear child, it having cost the British Government \$20,000, being a fee of a thousand pounds for each of the four medical gentlemen that waited upon her majesty.

U. S. BANK.

The statement lately published by Mr. J. L. in London, of the condition of the U. S. Bank, seems to have proved very unsatisfactory. The London Times says that a very different account must be prepared, before the deputation from Philadelphia can hope to succeed in negotiating a loan, which is said to have brought them to England.

New Cabinet.

It is currently reported, that Daniel Webster will be appointed Secretary of State, Mr. Crittenden of Kentucky, Attorney General, Mr. Ewing of Ohio, Postmaster General, John Sergeant of Pennsylvania, Secretary of the Treasury.

Coal Trade.

The Pennsylvania Reporter, a short time since, published an account of the aggregate coal trade of Pennsylvania. We were surprised to see that our neighbor had entirely overlooked the operations of the Shamokin region, decidedly the most extensive coal region in Pennsylvania, from whence two operators alone shipped about 15,000 tons of coal during the past season, although they had commenced their operations late in the season. Preparations are now making that will enable them to do a larger amount of business next season than has been done by the combined operations of the whole valley of the Susquehanna during the last year. It is not generally known that the Shamokin coal region, though large in its extent, contains at least 300 per cent. more coal than the Pottsville region. This remark is not made as an invidious comparison, but that those who have some knowledge of that fine coal region may form a proper estimate of our own.

Table showing the amount shipped from different regions in the state. Columns: Region, Amount. From Pottsville, &c., 434,952. Mauch Chunk, 224,952. Lackawanna, 147,232. Swatara, Pinegrove, &c., 30,630. Wiconisco, 1,000. Shamokin, 15,808. Total, 844,574.

Imports and Exports.

One of most gratifying evidences of the increasing prosperity of our country, is the favorable condition which the last treasurer's report exhibits of the imports and exports. The exports for the year ending September 1840, are computed at \$131,571,950, about \$10,000,000 more than in 1839.

The imports during the same time amount to \$104,895,891, which is less than the imports of 1839, by about \$57,000,000. This will account in part for the diminution of the revenue of the customs.

The imports have usually been greater than the exports. In 1836 the imports were greater by about \$61,000,000, and in 1839 by about \$41,000,000. The balance of trade in our favor, it will be seen, amounts to nearly \$27,000,000 for 1840. This result, it is said, has not only taken place six times since 1798, and then never exceeded in amount \$8,000,000. This is a most gratifying evidence of the inexhaustible resources of our country.

The Pottsville Emporium speaking of exchange papers says:—"It appears to us that a paper without editorial matter, or one which when printed, cannot be read, is not under the jurisdiction of a regular printer, and that its management should be placed in better hands. Our next number may skip the rate."

There is no less truth than philosophy in the above remarks. We received an exchange paper a few days since, the editor of which we concluded, had joined the party called "But Ender," and had, in illustration of his principles, reversed the position of his type and given his readers a but read impression.

Tide Water Canal.

A meeting, it will be seen in another column, has been held in Philadelphia, for the purpose of adopting measures to secure the trade that descends the Tide Water Canal. Steam Tow Boats are to be procured to tow boats to and from Philadelphia and Havre de Grace.

The trade of the Tide Water Canal will be immense in the course of a few years. It will be a prize well worth contending for, by the rival citizens of Baltimore and Philadelphia.

The coal trade of the Susquehanna, however, which in a few years will reach several hundred thousand tons, will naturally seek the Baltimore market.

The Baltimore American in commenting on the above meeting says:

"The experience of the past season,—notwithstanding that the trade of the Canal has scarcely begun to move, comparatively speaking,—has been sufficient to prove how very closely and intimately the business relations of Baltimore and the great Susquehanna Valley are destined to be united; and while our city will never object to a fair competition for the trade of that immense region, she will not be backward in putting forth all proper efforts to obtain and secure its possession. A generously on the part of the two cities cannot but greatly facilitate the development of the resources of one of the richest mineral and agricultural regions in the world, and thus, whilst the interior is greatly benefited, the cities themselves will be enriched by new sources of prosperity.

The correspondent of the New York Evening Signal says:—"Immediately after the birth of the princess, and before it was dressed, it was wrapped in flannel and taken into an adjoining room and laid on a table before the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, the Lord Chamberlain, Lord Melbourne, Lord Palmerston, Lord John Russell, and other Privy Counsellors, whose duty it was to be present on the occasion. The Duchy of Kent, Prince Albert and five medical attendants, were among those who were in the room during the accomplishment of her Majesty.

The royal infant is a remarkably fine, plump, healthy child; and so well have both been doing since the event, that only one bulletin has been issued since Saturday last."

The Sixth Census.

Col. Samuel D. Patterson, Marshal of the Eastern district of Pennsylvania, has published a lengthy statement in the Philadelphia papers, giving the population and statistics of the counties which constitute his district. We subjoin the following aggregate of population.

Table with 2 columns: County, Population. Adams, 23,067. Berks, 69,726. Bucks, 43,664. Chester, 57,511. Cumberland, 40,937. Dauphin, 30,115. Delaware, 19,713. Franklin, 37,790. Lancaster, 85,915. Lebanon, 21,779. Lehigh, 25,889. Monroe, 967. Montgomery, 47,197. Northampton, 49,992. Perry, 17,086. Philadelphia City, 93,873. Philadelphia County, 165,019. Pike, 3,825. Schuylkill, 29,481. Wayne, 11,848. York, 46,858. Total, 910,715.

We give below some statistics, showing the population and increase in several states and in a number of the principal cities, which will be found valuable for reference. When full returns are received from the whole Union, we shall be careful to present our readers with a satisfactory synopsis.

Table showing Population and Increase of several States. Columns: State, 1840, 1830, Increase. Massachusetts, 718,592, 610,408, 108,184. New Hampshire, 284,481, 269,328, 15,153. Vermont, 291,848, 280,657, 11,191. Connecticut, 390,131, 397,675, 12,456. New Jersey, 373,272, 329,823, 52,449. Delaware, 78,107, 76,748, 1,359. Ohio, 1,790,000, 935,884, 854,116. Michigan, 212,000, 31,639, 180,361. Missouri, 350,000, 140,465, 159,535. Aggregate, 4,358,431, 2,964,617, 1,394,814.

Population and Increase of some of the principal cities in the Union.

Table with 3 columns: City, 1840, 1830, Increase. New York, 312,234, 202,589, 109,845. Philadelphia, 258,992, 188,797, 70,125. Baltimore, 101,378, 80,625, 21,753. New Orleans, 116,764, 42,310, 64,454. Boston, 93,452, 61,392, 33,060. Brooklyn, 36,283, 12,403, 24,880. Cincinnati, 46,282, 24,831, 21,451. St. Louis, 24,585, 5,852, 18,733. Washington, 22,777, 18,262, 3,950. Pittsburgh, 21,296, 12,542, 8,754. Richmond, 20,152, 16,069, 4,072. Concord, 4,903, 3,727, 1,176. Savannah, 7,587, 6,351, 1,236. Portsmouth, 7,887, 8,082, decrease.

By the foregoing, it will be perceived that the states of Michigan and Missouri have more than doubled in population within the last ten years. The same will, probably, be found to be the case in several of the Western and South-Western States. Baltimore has lost its rank as the third city in the Union, by the astonishing increase of population in New Orleans, which has more than doubled since the last census. The increase in St. Louis, Pittsburgh and Cincinnati, is also remarkable, and gives unerring indication of the immense empire which is fast being built up in the "great west."

ITEMS.

Mrs. Asahel Harrington, who died recently at New Salem, N. H., aged 86, was the wife of three revolutionary soldiers, successively.

FRANKLIN.—We see it stated that Sir John Franklin, Governor of Van Diemen's Land, is the grand son of Doctor Franklin, the offspring of the Doctor's tory son who was once Governor of New Jersey.

MISSOURI.—The whole population of this state is 327,731. Free white males 149,366, females 127,991, slaves 48,941. Free colored persons 1433.

HANDSOME BEQUEST.—A lady residing in Salem, (Mass.) has bequeathed twenty-five thousand dollars to the Essex County McLean Asylum for the support of the insane.

The State Bank of Illinois, at Springfield, with its nine branches, resumed specie payments on the 7th ultimo.

WIVES OF "LONG STANDING."—There is a family of six brothers in Indiana, all of whom voted for Gen. Harrison. Their aggregate length is 43 feet, being an average of 7 feet 2 inches each.

DUTY ON SILKS.—The citizens of New York are circulating a petition in that city, addressed to Congress, to obtain a protective duty on foreign silk, both manufactured and unmanufactured, imported into the United States.

MURDER.—A man named Ben Gaskell, poisoned his wife, by administering to her laudanum in whiskey, under the pretence of curing her of the tooth-ache, at Hector, Thompson county, N. Y., a short time since. He has been committed for trial.

EASTERN RAIL ROAD.—We learn that all the stock has been subscribed to in the Eastern railroad necessary to secure its continuance to Portland. An effort is now making to obtain the means of continuing the road to Augusta, with the ultimate view of carrying it also to Bangor.

REDEMPTION.—The Banks of Georgia were to resume specie payments on the 1st of January. PRINTING IN PHILADELPHIA.—The number of printing offices in Philadelphia is 411; of daily newspapers 8; of weekly newspapers 15; of semi and tri-weekly 6; of periodicals 23; of men employed 346, and capital invested \$212,100.

As ravenous birds are the quickest sighted, so the worst men are the greatest fault finders. If the men are intemperate in drinking, the ladies are also in tight lacing. So, there now.

SLAUGHTER.—They have already, this present season, slain 41,000 hogs in Cincinnati.

A GOOD SENTIMENT.—A true gentleman can never indulge resentment against a female.

EQUALITY.—All men were born to be free and equal, except editors.

According to the St. Louis Gazette, the business transacted between that city and Boston and New York this year, amounts to about \$6,000,000.

AN OBITUARY.—A legal notice in a Western paper is addressed to the heirs of the late Mr. Early.

THE BLOODED.—The name of the man who murdered the Scott family in Southampton is Drake. A false friend is like a shadow on a dial, it appears in clear weather, but vanishes as soon as it is cloudy.

BUSINESS.—The St. Louis Sentinel states that the legislators of Missouri are squabbling about nothing. Who suffers?

THE SEASON.—By the latest accounts from Charleston, S. C., the Fig trees, Cherry trees and Grape Vines were all in full bloom.

HARRISON'S COACH.—Mr. Lee tells us that the subscriptions for this splendid coach are almost completed.

"Stick to it," as our foreman said to his journey-men. Nobody but a printer can see that joke.

THE FIRST PRINTED BIBLE, namely, that of Faust and Sheriff, the two futility associates of Gutenberg, is deposited in the Nurnburg.

It was a rocket thrown from the Austrian frigate La Gueniere that blew up the myzantine at St. Jean d'Acree.

TEXAS LOAN.—When the Acadia left Gen. Hamilton had not concluded his negotiations for a loan to the young republic.

THE OYSTER TRADE.—During the two months ending on the 16th ult., 4,229 tons of Oysters passed through the Chesapeake and Delaware to Philadelphia.

The London ladies are about to present to Prince Albert a gold medal, as a token of the high estimation in which they hold his natural abilities.

In drinking other people's health we should be careful not to lose our own. Champagne often produces real pain, and prepares the mind for the notions of Tom Paine.

Philosophers agree upon one thing—that the sun never was known to rise in the west.

An English paper says that eight Peers of England, who were married to divorced women, died suddenly within the last three years. Take warning!

A man in Salem has made a bet of \$100 that there will be one thousand suicides committed in the United States, from the time the first state voted for electors to the 4th of March next.

Louis Philippe has arranged a marriage between his youngest son and Queen Isabella, of Spain.

"Good day, mother of a-see," cried out two impudent soldiers to an old woman who was leading two donkeys. "Good day, my children," replied she, and passed on.

CURE FOR CONVULSIVE FITS.—It may be interesting, says the Philadelphia Chronicle, to those who are afflicted with this distressing malady, to be informed that an individual in this town, who has been attacked as often, sometimes, as twice a week, has been recently cured, by drinking salt and water two or three times a day.

STUFFING OUT.—There are applicants enough for the office of electoral messenger at Hartford, Conn., to pass a bucket from that city to the capitol.

The Troy Mail says that one of the citizens of that place, has slaughtered upwards of 8000 cattle this fall, which made more than 16,000 barrels of beef, who psked.

SELLING LOTTERY TICKETS. Several persons have lately been taken up and fined in Philadelphia, for selling lottery tickets contrary to law.

FOR THE AMERICAN.

I like to see a young man put all his earnings upon his back. It is an evidence that he is a nice young man, determined to be genteel. If he should happen to run in debt for them, it will add still more to his gentility. Never paying for them at all will entitle him to the character of a thorough bred gentleman, as it is decidedly vulgar to pay one's honest debts.

I like to see a young man insult or abuse a woman. It shows great moral courage and independence of mind; and proves most conclusively that he would make a kind and affectionate husband.

I like to see a young man sport a gold watch and chain, breastpin and a handsome cane, especially when folks know that he cannot afford to shine on his own account. It is a proof that he is a promising young man, and will make one promise or another. CENSOR.

We have had for some days on our table a Map of the section of the State examined during the experimental surveys conducted by Edward Miller, Esq., for the Sunbury and Erie Rail Road Co. It includes nearly all the lines run by the different parties connected with the survey, together with the location of the line of the road as far down as Lock Haven, on the Susquehanna. The beautiful execution of the map does great credit to Mr. M. H. Stansbury, under whose care it was produced, and by whom the topographical drawings were finished.—U. S. Gazette.

Statistics of Schuylkill County.

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. We are indebted to the Philadelphia North American for the following statistics of our county, which no doubt will be read with interest. It will be observed that the capital invested in the: Coal Trade is \$530,862. Iron Trade, 152,000. Various Manufactures, 243,650. Invested in Merchandise, 352,700. Total capital, \$1,279,212.

Number of persons engaged in mining, 1015 agriculture, 2918; commerce, 82; manufacture and trades, 1142; navigation of Canals like rivers, 103; learned professions and engineers, 101.

IRON.—No. of Furnaces 3; tons of cast iron produced 2,109; Blast-furnaces, Forges and Rolling Mills; tons of bar iron produced 1,475; tons of fuel consumed 8,078; men employed including mine operations 246; capital invested \$152,000. COAL.—Tons of Anthracite Coal raised (28 bushels each) 431,313; men employed 1,663; capital invested \$530,862.

Washington Correspondence.

WASHINGTON CITY, Dec. 26, 1840.

DEAR SIR:—As I am now in the midst of the fair Ladies, turkeys and tarts, soups and saucijuls and two lips, your patrons, who no doubt are gentlemen of taste, and all nature will applaud that in such an exquisite position I feel as tenuous of as the Frenchman, who claimed, "Plutôt mourir que de changer."

Among the holiday amusements there is to be "Bear bait" near the Washington race course the vicinity of the city, on New Year's day. I expected that Bruin will give some of his cat visitors a hug that will prove anything but friendship in it, and a tap with his huge paws that will feel like anything but a glove tap! There is an immense concourse of spectators in attendance, and fine chances for "pick-pockets," who will attend for the purpose of giving you a description of it.

The hacks in this city are likely to be supplied by the introduction of a new sort of vehicle called Cabs. A cab is simply a two wheeled omnibus drawn by one horse. They are painted black and highly polished outside, and carpeted inside. A number of them made their appearance at a meeting of Congress. They do business at half the prices charged by the hacks. The hack drivers look upon the cab drivers as rather unwelcome intruders; and last evening feeling more than usual spirited, they raised a row with them. What resulted has been I have not learned. The cab driver however, have not "absquatulated" for they still engaged in their ordinary avocation on Pennsylvania Avenue.

Madame Eum now insists upon it that Webster will be Premier in Gen. Harrison's cabinet, Mr. Ewing of Ohio, Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Preston of South Carolina, Secretary War, Mr. Rives of Virginia, Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Stevens of Pennsylvania, Post Master General Mr. Crittenden, of Kentucky, Attorney General. In this section all the factions composing the Harrison party will be represented. Mr. Webster represent the old Federal party; Mr. Ewing the Harrison party proper; Mr. Preston the Slave party; Mr. Rives the Conservative or State Bank party; Mr. Stevens the Anti-masonic and Abolition parties; Mr. Crittenden the old National Republican or U. S. Bank party. But all of them go in for a United States Bank, except perhaps Mr. Rives, as all of them have advocated, in a public capacity, the establishment of such an institution except him.

It is said that John Quincy Adams and Governor Lincoln will be elected by the Massachusetts Legislature to supply the places of Mr. Davis, who has been elected Governor, and Mr. Webster, who is to go into the Cabinet.

Mr. Clay is gone to New York. It is surmised that his object in going there is to settle the preliminaries of a United States Bank, and to ascertain who of the applicants for the offices there will be sustain the regular line of the successorship. [Keystone.]

School Act.

The Harrisburg Keystone says, "An act was passed at the last session of the legislature, reorganizing school directors which were heretofore made the superintendent on the first Monday in January to be thereafter made on the first Monday in June or as soon after that day as practicable, and to include the proceeding of the year ending on the first Monday of June.