THE OBSERVER.

B. F. SLOAN, Editor.

TERMS: $1 50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 1860.

Democratic County Convention.

A Democratic County Convention will be held in the City of Erie, on Tuesday, the 7th day of February next, at 2 o'clock, P. M., for the purpose of appointing delegates to the State Convention, and to transact such other business as may come before the Convention, appertaining to the interest of the party.

Primary meetings will be held in the several Townships, Boroughs, and Wards in the County of Erie, at the usual places of holding the Township and Borough elections in the County, and at the Select and Common Council Rooms in the East and West Wards for the City of Erie, on Saturday the 4th day of February, A D 1860, between the hours of 2 and 4 o'clock, P. M., except the City of Erie, which will be at 7 o'clock, P. M.

JAMES C. MARSHALL,
Erie, Jan. 7, 1860 Ch'n Co. Com

The Governor's Message.

Gov PACKER's Message, which we published last week, the reader will doubtless agree with us in pronouncing a straight forward unpretending business document eminently worthy of the Chief Magistrate of Pennsylvania So far as it relates to State affairs, and it is mainly devoted to the interests of the Commonwealth, there will be no diversity of sentiment It is all we could have wished Its statements of our financial affairs are truly gratifying. The last year's receipts into the Treasury, including the former balance, have amounted to $4,718,377; the expenditures have been $3,879,054; leaving a balance of $839,323 on the 1st of December, 1859 The amount of public debt paid off during the thirteen months ending December 31st, 1859, has been $1,009,282 The present debt, funded and unfunded, is $38,478,961 — This good result, the Governor claims, is chiefly due to the sale of the State Canals He anticipates a still more rapid reduction of the debt from this time forward The amount of securities held by the State against the several corporations that purchased the Canals, is little over $11,000,000, which the Governor deducts from the actual aggregate of the State Debt, and thus reduces it to about $27,000,000. If we could be sure that these bonds would be ultimately be paid, we would have more confidence in the Governor's calculations The Message gives an encouraging account of the progress of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad — It states the amount paid by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company as Tonnage Tax, up to the year 1858, and shows that the amount withheld and awaiting the Supreme Court's decision as to the validity of the tax, is $246,743 80.— From what the Governor says on this subject, we infer that he will (as he should) refuse his sanction to the scheme for the repeal of this tax, which will doubtless be brought before the Legislature at its present session

The Governor gives a favorable account of the Common Schools of the State, and makes some judicious suggestions to improve the operations of the system The Farmers High School and State Library are commended to the liberality of the Legislature. The existing laws relating to banking are pronounced defective, and the governor declares that he will not, under them, approve of any increase in banking corporations This is right. The necessity of a reform in the mode of receiving, keeping and disbursing the public revenues, is urged But the Governor's recommendation that all checks issued by the State Treasurer, shall be countersigned by the Auditor General, does not go half far enough to meet the defects of which he justly complains. Nothing short of the adoption of the Independent Treasury system, which has stood the test of successful experiment by the National Government, will accomplish the needful reform.

The benevolent institutions that have heretofore been fostered by the State, are commend- [illegible] the State's bounty. The practice of special legislation on subjects that might properly be brought under existing general laws, is condemned. The tariff question is briefly alluded to, and the recommendations of the president, in his Message of last year, are substantially adopted.

The Governor's talk about Kansas, its admission into the Union, and all that, is perhaps well enough in its way, but really we cannot see what it has to do with the duty of the Governor "from time to time to give to the General Assembly information of the state of the Commonwealth" Certainly the "early admission of the territory of Kansas as one of the sovereign States of the Union," is not a question on which the "General Assembly" of this Commonwealth will be called to act. Nor is such "information" as that "Popular Sovereignty "having finally prevailed, in the full, free and "fair adoption of the fundamental law of the "Territory, according to the wishes of the peo-"ple, this vexed and dangerous question, in "that Territory, may now be considered as "satisfactorily and perpetually settled," the kind of "information" the Constitution enjoins upon him to communicate to the representatives of the people of Pennsylvania Upon all other points, as we said above, we think the Message an admirable one, and will go far to redeem the Governor's failure as an administrative officer'

☞ The first effort after the union of the True American and the Express, was to issue an extra on Tuesday, containing all the wonderful correspondence of the Republican Senatorial delegate, Mr. M. B. LOWRY, with "all the world and the rest of mankind," in relation to his "old neighbor and friend," John Brown. The only omission we could discover in this compilation, was that the compiler neglected to give the article from the Observer headed "A Short Horse is soon Curried" "Ye veritable Historie of Ye Great Personage, called Jack the-Giant-Killer," is certainly not complete without that.

☞ A Boston paper has a paragraph headed "Yankee Coolness," in which it is related that a pair of horses ran away in one of the principal streets of that city on Thursday morning, at "considerable speed," and without a driver. There was a young lady in the carriage attached People shouted and stood still, which is the conduct made and provided for such cases. A man who was "respectable looking" ran from the sidewalk, seized the horses and stopped them The life in the carriage was saved. The coachman finally appeared and resumed his place upon the box. Nobody thanked the "respectable looking" man It is cool, certainly, not to thank a man if he saves your life

☞ Who will hereafter say that the Jews are not a liberal race? We see that in New York, a few days since, they met in one of their synagogues and subscribed over three thousand dollars to aid their suffering brethren at Gibraltar They probably would not be inclined to do much for christians, but they certainly take good care of their own people; there are no Jews in any public charitable institutions; and last winter, at the annual dinner of the New York Hebrew Benevolent Society, some ten thousand dollars were contributed for the relief of the sick and needy These are noble charities and the example of our Jewish citizens, in these instances, may be imitated in every community with advantage to the poor and destitute.

Non Organisation of Congress.

Congress met on the first of December, it is now the middle of January, and there is no organization Daily the same routine is gone through with—first speeches about every body and every thing, then a vote or two, and then an adjournment It is useless to fill our paper with the ballots One, as a sample, is sufficient, as it is a transcript of all the rest with little variation Thus: Whole number of votes cast, 211; necessary to a choice, 106. SHERMAN, Rep., 108; HAMILTON, Dem., 89; GILMORE, Amer., 14; Scattering, 6 Now, with this record, who is responsible for this non-organization? Not the Democrats certainly, for they are a minority, whereas their opponents have a majority Why do they not elect then? The question is answered very satisfactorily by the Buffalo Commercial, an opposition paper. It says since Mr SEWARD's arrival in Washington he "has advised his over-"loving friends that they were killing both him "and his party by an excess of kindness He "has urged upon the Republicans the necessi-"ty of withdrawing Mr. SHERMAN and uniting "upon either Mr. GILMER or Mr. CORWIN.— "His advice has been rejected, and with a pig-"headed obstinacy which does far more credit "to their fidelity to men than to their wisdom "as statesmen, they insist upon clinging to "Mr. SHERMAN as a representative man. It "does not require a sagacity so profound as "that claimed for Mr. SEWARD, to see that the "course he recommends is dictated by sound "policy." This then is the reason—the Republicans are determined to force their allies to swallow SHERMAN, or have no organization And it serves them right. The American party has been playing into the hands of the Republicans, and it is fitting and proper that it should now be forced to eat the meat it has prepared for the banquet. At all events, for the non-organization of Congress the Democrats cannot be held responsible by the country They are not the majority, therefore they cannot organize, nor prevent an organization!

☞ By their fruits ye shall know them'— At the Forney's Convention held at Harrisburg, 13th April last, John Hickman is reported to have said. "Let this truth be made prominent —that there is an eternal antagonism between freedom and slavery. The constitution of the human mind and the human heart makes it inevitable; and the one or the other must eventually gain the ascendancy The struggle between them has just begun, is now going on in our midst, and he is but a superficial observer who does not discover it." This is the Seward irrepressible conflict doctrine pure, and was proclaimed in Harrisburg, in the "Union State-Rights Democracy Convention, called so" Is not this the same Hickman who is now in the House of Representatives voting for Haskin for Speaker, (and Haskin voting for him) and who claims to stand by the cardinal doctrines of the Democratic party, while, at the same time, he asserts that he would vote for a Black Republican Speaker if ultimately called to choose between a Republican and an Administration man? Will some of the peculiar admirers of John W Forney, please answer'

☞ The New Hampshire member of the Republican National Committee, recently in session at New Nork, is Mr. George G Fogg, editor of the Concord Independent Democrat, which has expressed the opinion that the only way to get rid of slavery is to foment rebellion among the Slaves. And yet the Republicans tell us they do not intend to interfere with that institution where it exists

☞ Forty free negroes, who have been expelled from Arkansas under the terms of the recent legislative enactment, which prescribed that in the event of their non-departure they should be sold into slavery, arrived at Cincinnati on Tuesday, in a destitute condition.— They were met by a Committee appointed for the purpose by the [illegible] cinnati. It is reported that the upward-bound boats on the Mississippi River are crowded with these fugitives, flying from their homes. —Exchange.

And this expulsion of free negroes from the southern States is the legitimate fruits of the raid which Republicanism has inaugurated against the south Under the specious pretext of philanthropy, and love for the colored race, northern fanaticism has done more to rivet the chains of the slave, and injure the cause of the free colored man; than all the Beecher's and Greeley's, and the anti-slavery apostles of that ilk, will ever attone for if they live a thousand years, and repent in sack cloth and ashes every day. What sins are committed in thy name, O, philanthropy!

☞ The Erie Express, S J Goodrich, publisher, with Editors without number, has "gone and died"—died so quick that its numerous staff of Editors, Reporters, contributors, and fugle-men, did not have time to bid their hundred and fifty readers farewell The Express's life was brief but not very brilliant. Its political course was a tortuous and uncertain as the men who used its columns are malicious and dishonest. Professing to be Democratic, its first effort was to distract and divide the Democratic party of the county Signally foiled in that, its next card was a personal warfare upon us. That proving a losing game, it subsided into a mere compilation, somewhat after the fashion of the old Chronicle, though without half its tact and taste And now it is dead, and its defunct carcass has been given over to the True American, and its few subscribers transferred body and breeches to Abolitionism Its end is a most fitting finale of its life

☞ We call attention of our Democratic friends in each township to the call for a Democratic County Convention We hope the call will be cordially responded to, and a through and perfect organization commenced. The Convention which assembles at Reading in February is an important one. A candidate for Governor is to be chosen; delegates to Charleston are to be appointed; and Presidential electors selected. The Democracy of Erie county have a voice in all this, and the only way to make that voice heard is through our County Convention. Besides, it is our duty to commence organizing for the Presidential election next Fall, and an important point in such organization is to secure an efficient County Committee It will devolve upon the Convention on the 7th of February to select such a Committee. Let us have a general attendance then at our primary meetings, let union and harmony prevail, and an effort made to rekindle the watch-fires of our time honored organization.

☞ One of our exchanges, the Editor of which has doubtless been afflicted, gives this cure for corns: take a lemon, cut a piece of it off, then nick it so as to let in the toe with the corn, the pulp next to the corn, tie this on at night so that it cannot move; you will find the next morning that, with a blunt knife, the corn will come away to a great extent. Two or three applications of this will make "a poor cripple" happy for life; and we shall be glad to hear the result.

APPOINTED.—The President has sent to the Senate the name of Hon. Charles J. Faulkner of Virginia, as Minister to France.

— Darwin E. Elmer, a believer in Second Advent doctrines, hung himself at Cleveland, Ohio, last week.

Great Calamity at Lawrence, Mass.!

The Pemberton Mills Fallen! 700 Operatives in the Ruins! Fire Added to the other Horrors! 200 Human Bodies Consumed!!

LAWRENCE, Mass., Jan. 10—9 P. M.

One of the most terrible catastrophes on record occurred in this city this afternoon. The Pemberton Mills fell with a sudden crash at about 5 o'clock, while some six or seven hundred operatives were at work.—The mills are a complete wreck. Some two or three hundred persons are supposed to be still in the ruins. At present it is impossible to give anything like a correct statement of the loss of live, but from the best authority it is believed that at least 200 are dead in the ruins. Eighteen dead bodies have already been taken out, together with some twenty-five persons mortally wounded, besides some fifty in different stages of mutilation. Mr. Chase, the Agent of the mills, and Mr. Howe, the Treasurer, escaped by running from the falling building. It is impossible as yet to tell the cause of the disaster. Our reporter has just come from the ruins, and the scene beggars all description. Some two or more acres of ground are piled up with every description of machinery of the fallen buildings. Huge bondfires are burning to light some two or three thousand persons who are working as if for their own lives to rescue the unfortunate persons, many of whom are still crying and begging to be released from their tortures. Every few minutes some poor wretch is dragged from his prison, and it is heart-rending to hear their cries as they are drawn out with legs or arms crushed or torn. One man shockingly mangled, and partly under the bricks deliberately cut his throat to end his agony The whole city seems to be in mourning. Many are running through the streets, and, with frantic cries, searching the ruins. Temporary hospitals have been arranged for those rescued. Many stand by the wreck frigid with despair. Later, a terrible crash, caused by the clearing away, threatens death to all who may be still in the ruins. Surgeons are coming in from all directions, and everything that can be done at such a painful moment is being done for the suffering victims of the fearful calamity, the mystery of which will have to be cleared up by an inquest.

SECOND DESPATCH, 11.30, P. M.

The building was never considered to be as staunch as it ought to be. It was built about seven years since, and was then tho't a sham Indeed before the machinery was put in the walls spread to such an extent that some twenty-two tons of iron slats were put on to save it from falling by its own weight From the best information that can be now gathered, the building appeared to crumbled and fall from the eastern corner or end. It fell inwards.—The fire department at once repaired to the spot, but there being no fire, they at once set to work with a will to remove the rubish. The City Hall has been converted into a temporary hospital for the dead and wounded till recognized One woman, in the part of the mill still standing, became frightened, and threw herself out of the fifth story, breaking an arm and injuring herself so that she cannot recover. The laboring force of the mill is about 960, and it is supposed that about 700 human beings were actually buried in the ruins. About half-past 9 fire in the ruins was discovered This additional horror struck terror to the hearts that had before been hopeful of saving more lives; still the work of removal went on. The force pumps and engines on the ground were at once got to work and have been pouring torrents on, so that at 11·30 the fire does not seem to gain and hopes are entertained that it will be stayed. Those near the breaking out of the fire were almost on the point of extracting a woman, not much hurt, but the flames drove them back, and the woman is supposed to have perished. 12 M.—Calamity succeeds calamity. In 10 minutes the whole mass of ruins has become one sheet of flame. The screams and moanings of the poor buried creatures can be distinctly heard, but no power can save them. 1:30 A. M.—The Pemberton Mills are now a black, smoking mass of brick, mortar, and human bones, promiscuously mingled.—[illegible] beings perished in the flames. The Washington mill was in great jeopardy, the wind blowing towards Duck mill, whose counting room touches the Pemberton.

LAWRENCE, Mass., Jan. 11.

FURTHER PARTICULARS.—A portion of the operatives had left for supper previous to the falling of the building, about 600 remaining.

The building was five stories high, 280 feet long by 70 wide, with a wing on the west side 45 feet square, shaped like the letter L. It ran 2,700 spindles—960 operatives were employed. Three persons are known to have been literally roasted alive. The fire is subdued. Only two bodies have been taken out since the conflagration.—The building was uninsured.

SECOND DESPATCH.—1 P. M.—We have very little additional in regard to the dreadful catastrophe A large proportion of the killed are young girls, many of them main supports of their parents. The fire was confined to the ruins of the Pemberton Mills. The loss of property is estimated at $600,000 The Mayor has issued the following notice:

LAWRENCE, Mass., Jan. 11th.—Terrible as our calamity has been, I think it is much overestimated in the number killed. As near as I have been able to ascertain this morning, I find the dead and missing, which is equivalent to dead, 115, and 160 wounded. Some of the wounded will die, but very much the larger number will survive

BOSTON, Jan. 11.

The Lawrence catastrophe cast a gloom over the city. Hon. David Sears presided at a meeting of twenty gentlemen to-day, who subscribed $2,000 for the relief of the sufferers, and appointed a committee to solicit further contributions. Trains to Lawrence are crowded. A strong force of reporters is on the ground, and accounts received are voluminous, but really afford little new.

John Ward, operative in the carding room of the second story, who was miraculously saved with his wife who worked near him, describes his escape as follows:

Was in the carding room with the second overseer, lighting up. It was five or ten minutes before five We had but a few burners lighted; suddenly heard a loud thundering crash overhead, and looking up, saw shafting coming down upon us all over the room. Terrified I stood fastened to the spot, although I knew the building was coming on me. Then I heard the overseer shout. I tried to jump out of the rubbish, but something struck me senseless.

When I came to I found myself in the rubbish, covered with blood from wounds on my face. Finally I crawled up and got to the top, and found a lot of ruins hanging over me, which liked to have taken my life, but I succeeded in getting out. I passed a dead girl and two mangled bodies. When first knocked down, I fell under a heavy grinding stone, which was too heavy to give way to the weight about above.—Ward found his wife at the City Hall.

The following is one of the heart-rending incidents: Margaret Hamilton, aged 14 years. This was her first day's work. Her devoted mother attended her, and when asked what injuries her daughter received replied: Her arm is broken, and her head is broken, and *Oh! my God*—and here the poor woman burst into tears—my poor darling is all broken. The unfortunate girl died to-day. The daughter was the main support of her mother and four children.

Miss Olive Bridges, of Calia, Me., who worked in the fifth story, seized the hoisting chain of the elevator and went softly down and escaped uninjured.

Before the building caught fire, a number of those imprisoned beneath the ruins could be seen and conversed with. Drinks and refreshments in some instances were passed to them. When the fire spread over the ruins they found escape hopeless, and bid adieu to friends, and in several cases gave directions as to the disposal of their effects. In one part of the building a hole was battered through a wall, and through it could be seen three young women who said they were not at all injured. One thrust her arm through the small aperture and begged to be drawn through it, but before the aperture could be made large enough the flames drove the men away, and the prisoners perished.

FOOLISH.—Miss Susannah Leyson appeared at the Police Court of Rochester last Friday and swore that one John Skilliman did in a calm, cool and deliberate manner threaten to take her life, and immediately thereafter destroy himself, if she did not consent to marry him forthwith; that the threat was made because she had bid him begone after having received attention from him for two years, on account of his having afterwards paid his adresses to other ladies. Skilliman gave bail to keep the peace. Fool!

☞ The *Gazette*, in making a note of th opinion of the Harrisburg *Telegraph*, that "IRA C. MITCHELL, of Bellefonte, a nephew of "the Governor, will be selected for Reporter "for the Supreme Court, says it had hoped that "our fellow citizen, BENJAMIN GRANT, Esq., "would receive this appointment. We still "hope he will, as he is confessedly capable, "while, according to the *Telegraph's* showing, "MITCHELL is totally incapable. We repeat "the hope, therefore, that unless the Governor "should conclude to take a Republican—a very "unlikely circumstance—he will appoint Mr. "GRANT, who is both a good lawyer and a good "Democrat." We cordially endorse the opinion of the *Gazette* in regard to Mr. GRANT.—He is not only "a good Democrat," but a sound and reliable Democrat; and what is more, is as sound a Lawyer as he is a politician, and has given abundant evidence of his qualifications for the post to which he is named. We understand also that his appointment has been recommended by almost the entire bar of North Western Pennsylvania—that the Judges of the Supreme Court of the State have joined in this recommendation, and that the appointment would give general satisfaction to the bar in other portions of the Commonwealth. It seems to us, under these circumstances, that however well qualified the Governor's nephew may be—*and we do not* endorse the *Telegraph's* fling by any means—as the Executive of the *state* he cannot overlook the application of Mr. GRANT

☞ The Editor of the *Gazette* says he wishes to "inform the Editor of the *Observer* that he happens to be so constituted as to be *able* to rise above those petty feelings of melevolence and revenge which obviously influence *his* general course—and *he* thanks God for it." A great many years ago—not lately we acknowledge—we read in our *Sunday school* lesson about a certain Pharisee who "thanked God" he was not like a certain poor publican and sinner.—And the *Gazette's* thank offering we have quoted, sounds very much as though it were uttered in the same spirit. And we guess it was We are more convinced of this because in the very article, to which we took exceptions last week, the comments upon which seems to have riled our neighbor, he did not "rise far enough above those petty feelings of malevolence" as to prevent his indulging in a mean and petty fling at us, based upon the "say so" of his "now personal friend, but once bitter enemy." If our neighbor desires to have people consider him a saint, he must act the saint at all times and to every body. Otherwise the public will think with us that the "thank God" part of his adjuration is rank blasphemy!

☞ Every body knows that the members of the Republican party never want office—at least, every body knows all their papers say so, and that is the same thing. Well, this being so, we were rather surprised to see the following description [illegible] at Harrisburg last week, in the columns of one of the class of papers mentioned. What can it mean? Are Republicans actually hungry for the "flesh pots?"

"Every hotel is overrun with candidates and their friends; and members are now buttonholed into a corner by one, tapped gently behind the door by another; softly whispered in the ear by another; invited to take a "smile" by another; appealed to in behalf of some cork-legged or one-eyed hero of the last war by another—all breathing the same story—all teaching—

"What various wants on power attend!"

For ten years past this evil—for positive evil *it* is—has been increasing The application for subordinate offices has been at once humiliating and alarming."

Patriots! patriots! every one of them "fought, bled and died" in defense of "sambo."

☞ The Jerusalem correspondent of the Boston *Traveller* says that Prince Alfred, Queen Victoria's second son, who is midshipman in the British Navy, while in the port of Jaffa, received a severe *thrashing* from a brother middy, whom he had insulted; and it is related of him, greatly to his credit, by his brother officers, that after his defeat he begged the victor's pardon, for having commenced the quarrel

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☞ Mr. Barnett, a very eminent riding master in St. John's Wood, London, has entered the lists with Mr. Rarey, and undertakes to prove that the American system of horse taming is neither new nor true, but had been tried and had failed long before Mr Rarey thought of adopting it.

☞ The New York *Herald* is urging the Black Republicans in Congress to vote for John W. Forney, for Clerk, and by way of recommendation, republishes his celebrated Forrest letter.

☞ The Washington correspondent of the Pittsburgh Journal gives the following:

"I was greatly edified on hearing 'Thad. Stevenes' justification of *his vote for Gilmer*, on Friday last, for Speaker. A friend rushed up to him, in breathless haste, just as the vote was about being announced by the Clerk, and while Mr. S. had yet time to change his vote, and exclaimed, 'Why, Mr. Stevens! Voting for Gilmer—the largest slaveholder in the House! He owns over a hundred negroes!' 'Certainly, certainly,' dryly replied Mr. S., 'he's just the man for me. You don't suppose I would vote for a man having just one old spavined nigger, do you?'"

☞ An exchange giver the following hint, which may have a *local* interest here:

"Let every one who finds fault with the dress worn by a minister make him a present of just such a coat, vest, pants, hat, boots, &c., as the sender thinks the most becoming."

☞ It is a common observation that there are more sufferers from debility, among Americans, than can be found among any other civilized nation. The reason is obvious. We take too little exercise, and forget the wants of the body in the absorbing pursuits of business. In all such cases, ordinary medicines can do little good. What is required is just such a tonic and invigorator as Dr. J. Hostetter has given to the world, in his CELEBRATED "BITTERS." The weak and nervous denizen of the counting-house, the exhausted toiler upon the shop-board, and the prostrated student of the midnight lamp, have found a wonderful regenerator in the "BITTERS," and prefer it to more pretentious, but less efficacious medicines.—But it should not be forgotten that the agent which is so magical in its influence upon a frame which is merely debilitated, is equally powerful in assisting nature to expel the most terrible forms of diseases. Who will not give it a trial?

Sold by druggists and dealers everywhere.

☞ See advertisement in another column.

Local and Literary.

E. D. Pickett, of Girard, has been elected an Assistant Door Keeper of the House at Harrisburg. Honors will become easy, in Erie county, at this rate very soon.

The notice of an increase of fare on the Sunbury road, on certain conditions, is designed to induce passengers to purchase tickets before taking seats in the car, and is a good regulation.

An Error.—The *Gazette*, we think, is in error in announcing that there is to be a new German Catholic paper started here. We have conversed with a number of gentlemen of that persuasion, and it is news to them.

Appointed.—We notice John W. Riddell, Esq., formerly of this city, has been appointed Solicitor of the City of Pittsburgh, by the new Republican Councils. As that stripe of politics is in the ascendant in the "smoky city" we are glad to record the success of such a personally unexceptionable young man.

The Conneautville *Courier* regales its readers with "Jack-the-Giant-Killer's" letter to Gov. Wise, from the columns of the *True American*. Next week it will doubtless give us the "History of the Funk Family" by the same author!

The Erie and Pittsburg road having been finished to Jamestown, Mercer county, many of our readers want to know when a regular train from *Erie* to that point is going to be put on? Give us light!

The Pennsylvania Almanac for 1860, has been laid upon our table. It contains many valuable statistics, and ought to have a wide sale. It can be had at the P. O. News Depot.

We wonder if Grace Greenwood's "Little Pilgrim" has'nt gone on a Pilgrimage to some undiscovered country?—cause we noticed the volume to commenced on the first inst., for which we were to receive it regularly for a year; but its pilgrimage has'nt extended this way, that's certain. What's the reason, Grace? What's the reason, Philander

One of our exchanges has a paragraph headed, "Editors Looking Up," based upon the fact that the chief clerks of both branches of the Pennsylvania Legislature are editors. Russell Eerrett, chief clerk of the Senate, is the editor of the *Pittsburgh Gazette*. E. H. Rauch, chief clerk of the House, is the editor of the *Mauch Chunk Gazette*!

We see by the *Gazette* that the "dead head" system is going to be curtailed on the Sunbury and Erie road. This is right. It takes money to build railroads—it requires a large quantity of the same kind of commodity to keep them running, consequently those who ride ought to pay. We are glad then to learn that Mr. Black has received his orders from head quarters to "lop off" the "dead heads."

A writer in the *Presbyterian* rebukes the custom prevailing in some Churches of "returning the hymn-books, after singing, to the 'rack' (on the back of the pew) with a noise almost equal to the grounding of arms by a military company." The rebuke is extensively applicable, but not to us.

We scarcely ever go upon our streets that we do not see objects of charity; and the almost daily applications at our door, show conclusively that the severe winter has caught many without means to provide food and fuel. Money is scarce, and employment difficult to obtain. Taking these facts into consideration, you who have been favored by fortune, and have means to spare, think how many sorrowing hearts may be made glad by the dropping of some little token of kindness.

There is many a lone, lone orphan,
Beating out this march of life
'Mid the clamor and confusion,
All alone amidst the strife;
There are brows as pale as ashes,
There are hearts as cold as snow,
Coursing on life's dusky highway—
Look and you will find it so!

Of all the genial, readable agricultural publications which grace our time, commend us to the "*Country Gentleman*," Albany, N. Y. Persons fond of Agricultural reading, including also, those in want of information relating to the farm and garden, should take this periodical, and we remind them that now is the time to subscribe. It never flags in interest, on the contrary is always fresh, presenting every week something new, instructing and useful. We hear much of the good done by him who makes three blades of grass grow where one only grew before. In our judgement the greater benefactor is he who makes men think,—thought preceedes effort, and without it no improvement can be made. The admission is general that our agriculture needs improving. The manner of effecting it to advantage is the great want. Here is a paper that solves much of the difficulty by imparting valuable practical instruction—such as every tiller of the soil needs. The teachings of the "*Country Gentleman*" are so clear and satisfactory that none need hesitate to carry them into practice—the bolder the more satisfactory the result. The terms of the paper are cheap, considering the amount of reading,—a single copy once a week $2, with a liberal discount to clubs. L. Tucker & Sons, Albany, N. Y.

We are indebted to E. B. & W. B. Coleman, Nos. 5 and 6, Burnett House, Cincinnati, for a case of wines and liquors, containing samples of sparkling and still Catawba, Old Rye, Scotch, and Bourbon Whiskies. As this House was unknown to us until this package reached us by Express, we were a little surprised that the firm had such a correct appreciation of our *taste*. If it was a mere guess it was the best guess we ever heard of, and they can guess again in the same way as soon as they like.—But joking aside; we infer from the card accompanying the package that the Messrs. Coleman are extensive dealers in Wines and Liquors, and having been furnished with such convincing evidence of the quality of the articles sold by them, we have no hesitation in recommending dealers and others in this section who wish to replenish their stock to send them an order. Their still and sparkling Catawba is from Longworth's celebrated vintage, while their Whiskies are selected with [illegible] care, and warranted pure,—which, of [illegible]f, is a great recommendation whether designed for medical or any other purpose.

The Buffalo *Commercial* publishes from the Boston *Journal* an account of Col. Drake's famous oil well at Titusville, and seems to doubt the statements as to the amount of oil pumped up in a day. The *Commercial* can lay aside its doubts—both the oil and the quantity are realities, as the number of barrels which daily come in over the Sunbury and Erie road can testify.

In noticing the union of the *Express* and *American*, the *Gazette* says of the new paper, "of course it will be anti-slavery in its aims and tendencies." Why not have said *Republican*?"

Some of our Pennsylvania exchanges, that got out no paper the week previous to New Year's day, are just now regailing their readers with the President's message. When they get through with that of the Governor, it will be almost time *for the Legislature to* adjourn.

Soon after the *Express* came into this breathing world, the Editor proclaimed publicly that he was going to spend what little property he had in fighting the *Observer*. Well, from present appearances we should say he has kept his word; but mark the result—the *Observer* still lives, but the *Express* has gone to rest in Catlin's bosom. In the language of Shelley—

As from an ancestral oak
Two empty ravens sound their clarion,
Yell by yell, and croak by croak,
When they sent the noonday smoke
Of fresh human carion.

As two gibbering night-birds flit
From their bowers of deadly hue,
Through the night to frighten it,
When the morn is in a fit,
And the stars are none, or few:

As a shark and dog-fish wait
Under an Atlantic isle,
For the negro-ship, whose freight
Is the theme of their debate,
Wrinkling their red gills the while—

Are ye, two vultures sick for battle,
Two scorpions under one wet stone,
Two bloodless wolves whose dry throats rattle,
Two crows perched on the murrained cattle,
Two vipers tangled into one.

Rev. Mr Blackburn, of this city, lectured at Westfield on Friday evening last week. The *Republican*, in speaking of the Lecture, says it "was a fine literary production. Mr. B. is a graceful writer, and an easy speaker: and his narrative of the Scotish Pioneer was listened to by a large and intelligent audience."

The dwelling house of one of our subscribers, N. Blickensdeffer, Esq., near the Ohio line in Springfield township, was destroyed by fire at mid-day on Tuesday of last week. We did not learn the amount of the loss—but it must be considerable.

The stockholders of the Erie and North East Railroad company held their annual election on Tuesday. The old board was unanimously elected, as follows. John A. Tracy, President; and John H. Walker, Dean Richmond, Milton Courtright, Prescott Metcalf, Andrew Scott, and Wm. L. Scott, Directors.—J. C. Spencer, was re-elected Treasurer.

The annual report of the Managers of the Erie Canal Company, together with the Report of the Superintendent, have been handed us for publication, but want of space precludes their insertion this week. We will find room for them in our next.

Nature's Freaks.—There are now on exhibition, at the Perry Block in this city, some of the most wonderful freaks of nature ever seen. The bill says, which we have seen posted about the streets, that there are three Pigs, each having eight legs, two bodies, four ears, two tails, and only one head; a Cat with two heads, four eyes, and two mouths; also, one Cat with three legs; and also a Soldier Chicken or Russion Upright, One Chicken with four legs and four wings, Chicken with a heavy coat of hair or down, two Chickens with twenty toes, one Chicken with three legs; one Dog with three legs; a Calf with two heads; an Alligator Gar-Fish; Tarantula Spider, variety of Snakes; a large Sea-bird, called The Silver Pheasant or Irish Dodo. Also, a Cat with Five Legs, and a Calf-Monster, with four Ears and four Eyes. All to be seen for the moderate fee of 15 cents; children 10 cents.

List of Traverse Jurors for a Court of Common Pleas to be held at Erie on the Last Monday, in January 1860.

King Brown, Conneaut; John Brecht, Fairview; F. M. Barney, Green, Samuel Baxter, Wayne; Norman Chapin, Venango; Wm. C. Curry, Erie; Matthew Campbell, Waterford, Jesse Coover, Green; James Evans, Millcreek; Jos. Ellis, Springfield; Robt. Furber, Union, Perry Ferguson, Fairview; Henry Fairchild, North East, S. J. Godfrey, Elk Creek; J. P. Grant, Millcreek; [illegible] M. Guild, Wm. Hoskinson, Erie, Jabez G. Hubbell, Amity; Israel Harrington, Conneaut; D. C. Hutchins, John Hill, Saml. W. Keefer, P. H. Mehaffey, Sherbun Smith, C. Thayer, Erie; Alfred Logan, James M. Murry, Amity; John Miller, Robt. Robinson, Wm. R. Sturgeon, Fairview; Isaac Powell, Elk Creek, David Shultz, Girard, Uriah Skinner, Urass Schluraff, McKean, Matthew Smith, Waterford; J. S. Thompson, Union.

List of Grand and Traverse Jurors for a Court of Oyer and Terminer to be held at Erie on the 1st Monday in February 1860:

Grand Jurors—Menius Cole, Wm. P. Ward, Conneaut; Wm. Lawrence, R. Cole, Green; Henry B. Palmer, Amity; John A. May, Robt. Huston, Porter Warren, Erie; Charles J. Sterrett, James Dunn, McKean, N. B. Greeley, Wayne; John Anderson, Jas. A Warner, Fairview, Benjamin Bernley, Greenfield; A. F. Jones, Milton Chambers, Harborcreek; John C. Reeder, Darwin E. Lary, Washington; Lawrence Colgrove, Concord; John Tarbell, Edenboro; Hiram Barker, Riley Pettebone, Wm. Jones, Girard, Wm. Putnam, N. East.

Traverse Jurors—Henry Gingrich, John Burton, J. N. Arbuckle, Robt. Davison, Thos. Willis, Robert Smith, Jacob Ripley, John Hershey, Millcreek; Peter H. Colt, Thos. Frisher, James Lytle, J. Steel Pollock, Hial Wade, Geo. Wescott, Le Bœuff; Ebenezer Matthews, Horace R. Pomeroy, Phillip Spaulding, Elk Creek; Harris Johnson, Alanson Burr, Wayne; John M. Justice, Erie; Samuel Chambers, Jackson Backus, H. A. Miner, Harborcreek, George Philips, Thomas Henderson, Davis Doolittle, Venango; Aaron Cooper, Jehial Boots, Timothy Babcock, Philetus Strong, Waterford; Theodore Ryman, Henial Clark, Girard; G. O. Perry, Elezer Goodrich, Halsey McLellan, D. K. Walker, Chauncey Griswold, Washington; George Barnes, P. D. Flower, Edwin Dorman, Henry B. Speers, Alden Pomeroy, Conneaut, J. N. Allen, Judah Gardner, John Gilbert, Franklin; Ora Parker, Summit; Geo. P. Luther, John Eaton, A. J. McCreary, Fairview; Jonathan Warden, Marcus Cowden, John Proctor, Union; John Parmater, McKean; Howell Wetmore, Amity; Andrew Burton, Greenfield; Mathias Rouse, Amity; David Edwards, Geo. R. Clark, Green.

Mail from Erie to Warren.—A short time since the P. M. of this city, made application to the P. O. Department to establish a mail route over the Sunbury and Erie road, from Erie to Warren, and to order service over the same. That application was presented to, and urged upon the P. M. General by Senator Bigler. The following letter from that genteman shows with what success:

Senate Chamber, Jan. 10, 1860.

B. F. Sloan, Esq.

Dear Sir:—I called at the P. O. Department and called up the question of the mail service between Erie and Warren by Railroad. The P. M. Gen'l says that until Congress comes to the relief of the Department it can entertain no applications for additional service—that no decision could at present be made, except that the law limits the amount per mile per annum for that class of service at $50, and the $6000 asked by the company cannot be paid under the present law. In fact, it is idle to attempt to accomplish any thing in the way of increasing the service. Until the Department is relieved by Congress it can do nothing, and besides, as you will have perceived by Mr. Holt's report, he is determined to bring the Department to a self-sustaining institution if possible.

I also presented the claim of the contractor between Erie and Pittsburgh, for compensation for carrying the mail daily after the service had been reduced to tri-weekly; but it was not entertained in any shape or form.

Very Truly Yours,

WM. BIGLER.

The right sort of a prayer is reported to have been made at a meeting at Groton Connecticut. One of the "Republican" brothers prayed with great unction for the peace of John Brown's soul. After he had finished a brother from the "other side of the house" offered up his petition to the throne of Grace, that wars might cease, and that "swords might be beaten into ploughshares, and spears into pruning hooks: more especially, O Lord, the 1200 pikes manufactured by that traitor to his country—O-l-d John Brown!"

Those interested will look at the call in another column for a meeting of the Erie Agricultural Society, and "make a note of it."

The "irrepressible conflict" between Messrs. Branch of N. C., and Grow of Pa., at Washington, D. C., was stopped by the interference of the police.

Barr & Brother are selling off their extensive assortment of Goods at Auction, and are giving "bargains as is bargains" to all having the ready. See advertisement.

New York, Jan 11

An address to the Union loving people of the United States appears in the morning papers announcing Gen. Scott as their candidate for the Presidency, and Gen. Houston for Vice President. The address is signed by G. W. Savage, chairman of the Scott Committee.

The city was flooded last night with counterfeit twos on the Bank of Kent. It is supposed that $50,000 of the money was got rid of before the police were notified. Four arrests were made.

The President has nominated to the Senate Ex-Congressmen Hughes, of Indiana, to fill the vacancy on the bench of the Court of Claims. Among the other confirmations are those of Marshal M. Smith as Consul to Constantinople, and Henry N. Miller, Postmaster to Detroit. The mail contractors continued to throw up their contracts, finding it impossible to continue the service through the failure of Congress to make appropriations.

Erie Wholesale Prices Current.

BREADSTUFFS, &c.

Flour, Illinois and Iowa, ₩ Bbl.,	$4 50@5 [illegible]
" Erie County, Superfine,	5 00@6 [illegible]
" Wisconsin,	4 75@5 75
Buckwheat Flour, ₩ cwt,	2 00@2 50
Wheat, White, ₩ bush.,	1 25@1 [illegible]
" Red, "	1 12@1 [illegible]
Corn,	[illegible]
Rye,	70
Oats,	35@38
Barley,	[illegible]
Flax Seed,	1 00

PROVISIONS.

Potatoes,	31@—
Beans,	75@1 00
Dried Apples,	1 50
Dried Peaches, ₩ lb,	[illegible]
Butter,	12@15
Lard,	10@12
Cheese,	7@8
Hams,	10@11
Shoulders,	[illegible]
Egg, ₩ doz.,	[illegible]
White Fish, ₩ Bbl.,	9 00@9 [illegible]
" " ½ "	5 00
Trout,	[illegible]
Codfish, ₩ Cwt,	5 00@5 50
Mackerel, Nos. 1 to 3, ₩ Bbl.,	18 50@24 [illegible]
Pork, mess,	17 [illegible]

GROCERIES,

Sugars	N. O., ₩ lb,	[illegible]
	P. R.	7@8
	Crushed,	[illegible]
	Powdered,	11
	Coffee, A,	10½
	Coffee, B.,	10
Coffee	Rio, ₩ lb,	11½@14
	Java.	16@18
Syrup.	₩ Gal.,	[illegible]
Molasses.	N. O., ₩ Gal	[illegible]
Teas	Young Hyson, ₩ lb,	[illegible]
	Old "	40@60
	Imperial,	[illegible]
	Black,	[illegible]
Spices	Pepper,	10½@11
	Pimento,	10@11
	Cloves,	[illegible]
	Cassia,	[illegible]
	Nutmegs,	[illegible]
Lamp Oil, ₩ Gal.,		[illegible]
Lard Oil,		[illegible]
Tanners' Oil,		[illegible]
Wood, Hard, ₩ cord,		[illegible]
" soft,		[illegible]

MARRIAGES.

On the 12th inst., by Rev. J. H. Pressy, Mr CYRUS J. WOLFE, and Miss LYDIA ANN MOSIER, both of Millcreek.

At the Reed House, in this city, on the 2d inst., by Rev. Mr. Tracy, of the 4th street Catholic Church, of this city, Mr H. W. HARRISON to Miss MARY COFFREY, both of Warren.

On Thursday the 6th inst., by Rev. J. R. Hamilton, Mr. BEN J. FARGO to Miss JENNIE BARR, both of Fairview.

DEATHS.

In Millcreek, on the 11th of December last, ELLEN, wife of Thomas Crowtey, aged [illegible] years.

In Harborcreek, on the 29th ult., JOHN SMITH, son of Edward and Elizabeth Cass, in his 8th year.

In Harborcreek, on the 26th of Nov., ELIZABETH CASS, youngest Daughter of John and Hannah Cass, aged 22 years.

To-Day's Advertisements.

Notice to Passengers.

ON and after Monday, the 23d inst. the PASSENGER FARES on the SUNBURY & ERIE RAILROAD will be advanced ONE HALF CENT PER MILE.

Persons purchasing Tickets in the Offices of the Company may continue to procure them at the old rates. Conductors will also sell tickets at the old rates from Stations where there are no agents authorized to do so.

SAM A. BLACK, Supt. W D.

Supt Office, Erie, Jan 12, 1860. 2132

Four Valuable Central Lots for SALE.

THE undersigned, Trustees of the United Presbyterian Church of Erie, now offer for sale, on Favorable Terms, the

FOUR BEAUTIFUL LOTS

Opposite the residence of Dr Faulkner, on French street. Each lot has 41 1-2 feet front on French street by 100 feet deep to an alley. The Corner Lot has a front on French street of 41 1-4 feet and front on Eighth street 100 feet. The short distance of these lots from the Public Square make them among the most desirable in the city.

JOHN M. WARREN,
M. R. BARR,
A. KING,
GEO. WOOD,
Erie, Jan 12, 1860. 32m3 ROBT SMITH, Trustees.

NOTICE.—The annual meeting of the Erie County Agricultural Society will be held at their room in the Court House in this city on Wednesday Jan 18th, at 10 o'clock, A. M. for the election of officers for the ensuing year, when the Committee on Grounds for the Society will make their report; and also for the transaction of any other business that may come before the Society. A full attendance is earnestly desired.

Erie, Jan 9. P. ARBUCKLE, Sec'y

AUCTION!
Great Sale of Dry Goods.

HAVING determined to relinquish the Mercantile Business, the subscriber will sell at AUCTION, at their store in the Hughes' Block, State St., their entire Stock, consisting in part of De Laines, Prints, Ginghams, Muslins, Flannels, Alpaccas, Paramettas and other Dry Goods; Silk, Linen and Cotton Handkerchiefs, Table Cloths, Shirtings, Table Diapers, Toweling, Head Dresses, Collars, Embroideries, Fringes, Gimps, Cords & Tassels; Cotton and Wool Gloves and Hosiery in great variety and superior quality; Under Shirts and Drawers, Wool Jackets, Shawls, Scarfs, Basques, Hoods, Comforters, Socks, &c. Cloths, Cassimeres, Satinetts and Kentucky Jeans; together with a large assortment of Buckskin Gloves and Mittens, Boots and Shoes, Satchels, Gents Linen and Marsailles Shirts, in all

AMOUNTING TO 6000 DOLLARS!!

Without Reserve to the highest bidder for CASH, or approved credit if desired. All sums under $10 Cash, over $10, and under $25, two months; over $25, and under $50, three months; over $50, and under $100, four months; over $100, six months with interest.

The sale will commence on Tuesday, the 10th inst., and continue on Thursday and Saturday, and thenceforth on Market Days from 10 until 4 o'clock, P. M., until the whole stock is disposed off. Entire Packages worthy the attention of the trade.

WALTER CHESTER, Auctioneer. BARR & BRO.

Erie, Jan. 12, 1860.

WANTED.—Two experienced Cabinet Furniture Makers, by

Jan 14. G. W. ELLSEY, Erie, Pa

NEW YORK & ERIE R. R.

CHANGE OF HOURS, COMMENCING SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 1860.

Trains will leave Dunkirk at about the following hours viz:

Eastward Bound—Depart.

New York Express	3 05 A. M.
Night Express	4 50 P. M.
Accommodation	10 20 A. M.
Stock Express	10 40 A. M.
Hog	5 45 P. M.
Fast Freight	2 00 P. M.
Way Freight	5 50 A. M.

The Night Express, Stock and Hog Trains run every day. The Accommodation train remains over night at Elmira.

CHAS. MINOT, Gen'l Sup't.
NATH. MARSH, Receiver.
Dunkirk, January 1, 1860—41.tf.