

National School Convention.

The National Common School Convention, commenced its session, in the Athenaeum Building, Philadelphia, on Wednesday the 17th inst. Hon. Horace Mann, of Massachusetts, was appointed President.

The attendance was quite large; Massachusetts, New Jersey, Maryland, New York, Wisconsin, Rhode Island, Delaware, Ohio, Connecticut, Iowa, Maine, Canada and Vermont, being represented.

A statement of the affairs of Girard College was made by Joseph R. Chandler, who gave quite a cheering account of the workings of the institution, and stated that so far it had fully realized his expectations.

A resolution was offered calling upon the Convention, to appoint a committee of five to prepare a memorial to Congress, asking the establishment of a bureau in the Home Department, for obtaining and publishing annually, statistical information in regard to public education in the U. States—adopted.

Reports from all the States represented, were read, giving statements as to the success of the Free School system. They are interesting, and show that, generally speaking, the system is in a flourishing condition. The report of the Pennsylvania delegation is as follows:

"Pennsylvania.—In this State the common school system is not understood to embrace benevolent institutions, such as Asylums for the Blind, Insane, &c., as in other States. As early as the year 1809, common schools were established. In 1819 an act was passed establishing schools for the poor in the city and county of Philadelphia.

These, however, by being stamped as pauper schools, never flourished until the year 1836, when common public schools were established in such a style as to be worthy of every man's children. Since then the progress of public schools has been rapid and marked.

During the past school year one million of dollars have been spent upon the public schools. Half of this was raised in Philadelphia. \$200,000 was appropriated by the State, and the remaining \$300,000 was levied in the district out of Philadelphia. In the city 43,000 scholars go to the common schools, the cost of each being about \$6.50. In 1848, the Legislature passed a law by which the school system was made obligatory upon every district in the State, without a vote of acceptance, as had formerly been the case."

**New Era in Iron.**  
There has gone into operation at Booneton, N. J., says the Tribune, a Triple Chamber, the invention of Mr. S. S. Salmers of Newark, into the upper chamber of which good Iron Ore (any which does not turn out a great deal of slag) and Anthracite Coal, pulverized and mixed, are placed, and, fire being applied, the coal is consumed and the ore melted; whereupon it is allowed to descend into the next chamber, and thence into the next, (but not exposed to the air at any time,) and finally drawn off at the bottom, fully transformed into Malleable (wrought) Iron or Blooms, ready to be rolled or hammered as may be desired.

**Dog Law Suit.**  
The conductor on the Nashua and Lowell road, recently seized three dogs belonging to sportsmen in the cars, the latter declining to pay for their transportation. A suit is to grow out of the matter, and one of the parties aggrieved threatens, says the Lowell Courier, to employ Daniel Webster. Meanwhile, the dogs are boarded out at Lowell, to await the result.

The fellow Robinson, who swindled several Postmasters by representing himself as the nephew of Major Hobbie, and was at last detected by the Evansville postmaster, has been tried at that place, convicted, and sentenced to the Indiana Penitentiary for two years.

**A Curiosity.**  
A thrifty chestnut tree in Cranston, (R. I.) may be seen, a few miles from this city, bearing raspberries and chestnuts at the same time. Not long since a limb was broken off, thus leaving a small hole in the crotch of the tree; a raspberry plant took root. It is now in a flourishing condition, as green and thrifty as the tree itself, and bearing fruit twenty feet from the ground.—Providence Journal.

Another Fabrication Exposed.

Among the idle stories put in circulation by the factious press, with a view to disparage the Administration, is a recent and most improbable one that Col. Fremont had refused, with rude disdain, the office conferred on him by the President, of Commissioner for determining the Mexican boundary.

By the following letter (published in the Republic of Friday last) from Col. Fremont, cordially and gracefully accepting the appointment, the reader will perceive how destitute of all foundation and of what sheer invention the story was:

To the Hon. J. M. Clayton, Secretary of State:  
"I have had the honor to receive, by the hands of Mr. Beale, United States Navy, your letter conferring upon me the post of Commissioner of the United States for the determination of our boundary line with Mexico.

"I feel much gratification in accepting the appointment, and beg to offer, through you, to the President my acknowledgments for the mark of confidence bestowed upon me, and which he may be assured is fully appreciated, &c.  
"J. C. FREMONT."

**A Singular Fight.**  
A curious fight took place between a man and woman, (husband and wife) in one of the streets of Pottsville, one day last week. The Journal of that place gives the following particulars. "It appears they are both addicted to taking too much of the 'critter' at times, and singularly enough, they both appeared to be perambulating, and as it occurred, met in the street. Owing to some cause or other, hard words were exchanged, and as is mostly the case, blows were also indulged in.

In the fracas, the woman was knocked down; but no sooner was she down, than she imbibed a new spirit, arose, picked up a stone, and with the courage of a true Amazon, aimed at her husband, and hit him 'upon the top of his head' with such force, as to bring him to the ground. Not satisfied with this, she sought other modes of redress, and determined upon doing 'full justice to her subject.' Accordingly, with a file, she went to work at his neck, and filed and sawed away, with a determination to punish her recalcitrant husband, and succeeded in inflicting serious wounds. The man, we understand, was attended to by a physician, who has put all things to rights, and by this time, he has, no doubt, come to the conclusion, that women are a little more dangerous than they look to be!

Rents, &c., in San Francisco.

The Parker House, a building 40 feet front by about 60 deep, rents for \$110,000 yearly. At least \$60,000 of this is paid by gamblers, who hold nearly all the second story. Adjoining it on the right is a canvas tent, 15 by 25 feet, called "El Dorado," and occupied by gamblers, which brings \$40,000. On the opposite corner, a building called the "Miner's Bank," used by Wright & Co., brokers, brings \$75,000. It is about half the size of our fire engine houses at home. On the left of the Parker House, a small two story frame building, which is just finished, has just been taken at \$80,000. The second story contains light gaming tables, each of which pays \$200 a night. Bleeker, Van Dyke & Belden pay \$40,000 rent; the United States Hotel, \$30,000; the Post Office, \$7,000, and so on to the end of the chapter. A friend of mine, who wished to find a place for a law office, was shown a cellar in the ground 12 feet square and six feet deep, which he could have at \$250 a month; the owner came here about three months ago, without money enough to pay his passage; he is now worth \$20,000. One of the common soldiers at the battle of San Pasquale is now among the millionaires of this place, with an income of \$50,000 monthly! A noted firm has loaned out \$110,000 at ten per cent. a month! (think of that Wall Street) and could easily dispose of double the amount in the same way. A citizen of San Francisco died insolvent last fall, to the amount of \$40,000. His administrators were delayed in settling his affairs, and his real estate advanced so rapidly in value meantime, that after his debts were paid, his heirs have a yearly income of \$40,000. These facts are indubitably attested. Every one believes them, yet hearing them talked of daily, as matters of course, one at first cannot help feeling as if he had been eating of the "insane root."

One Week Later.

The steamer Niagara arrived at Halifax on the 17th inst., bringing English dates to the 6th of October, inst. The chief item brought by the Niagara, and the only one which we have room to refer to, renders a General European War highly probable. The Tribune says:

"The Ottoman Porte, with the support of France, and England, bravely, persists in the refusal to surrender the Hungarians Refugees. The Russian Legation at Constantinople has thereupon closed its doors and is preparing to go home. After this comes war. England and France have made themselves parties to the provocation; how then, can they escape participating in the consequences? The war, if it comes must be a general one; that cannot be helped.

New York papers brought a dollar a piece at San Francisco at the last dates—Mr. Fitz who arrived there in the Panama having sold 1500 copies of the Tribune at that price. Papers of a late date had been sold at the mines for \$5.

The war of the Benton and anti-Benton factions continue to grow hotter and hotter. It is to go on as it has commenced until the election next August, we do not know what is to become of it. Each party is sanguine of being able to beat the other, and they are putting in their prettiest lies. The Whigs seem to enjoy it with intense satisfaction. They are perfectly indifferent about the end, so that very little is left of either of them. Wherever we can hear from, they stand outside of the ring, anxious only to give the combatants a fair fight. This is their true position.

At a wedding in Albany the other day, the bride's cake excited general admiration. It cost \$100, and was a beautiful temple nine feet high, of the Grecian and Italian style of architecture.

Miss Susan Felt, of Syracuse, Y. Y., rec'd only gave birth to five living infants—all of whom are likely to do well. The father of these children at once consented to marry Susan, and a handsome sum was subscribed for a "fit out" for the family. How proud Susan Felt about that time! The mother of five children and the wife of a doting husband—all in a day! Oh! My!

Penn'a. Legislature--Session 1850.

SENATE.  
The following is a complete list of the new Senate—new members marked with (\*); Locos in Roman, Whigs in Italics:

- 1. Philadelphia City—Benjamin Mathias, W. A. Cribb.
- 2. Philadelphia county—Thomas S. Fernon, Thomas H. Forsyth, Pelag B. Savery.
- 3. Montgomery—Joshua Y. Jones\* (Loco gain)
- 4. Chester and Delaware—H. Jones Brooke.
- 5. Berks—Henry A. Muhlenberg\*
- 6. Bucks—Benjamin Malone\*
- 7. Lancaster and Lebanon—Jos. Konigsmacher, Daniel Stine.
- 8. Monroe, Carbon, Schuylkill and Pike—Chas. Frailey\*
- 9. Northampton and Lehigh—Conrad Shimer\* (Locofoco gain)
- 10. Susquehanna, Wayne and Wyoming—Francis B. Streeter.
- 11. Bradford and Tioga—John W. Guernsey\*
- 12. Lycoming, Clinton, Centre and Sullivan—Wm. F. Packer\* (Locofoco gain)
- 13. Luzerne and Columbia—V. Best.
- 14. Northumberland and Dauphin—R. M. Frick.
- 15. Cumberland and Perry—R. C. Sterrett.
- 16. Mifflin, Juniata and Union—J. J. Cunningham
- 17. York—Henry Fulton\* (Loco gain)
- 18. Franklin and Adams—W. R. Sadler.
- 19. Huntingdon, Bedford and Blair—Alex. King
- 20. Armstrong, Cambria, Indiana and Clearfield—Augustus Drum
- 21. Westmoreland and Somerset—Isaac Huges
- 22. Fayette and Green—Maxwell M'Caslin
- 23. Washington—G. V. Lawrence
- 24. Allegheny and Butler—George Darsie, William H. Haslett\*
- 25. Beaver and Mercer—David Sankey
- 26. Crawford and Venango—J. Porter Brawley.
- 27. Erie—John H. Walker\*
- 28. Warren, Jefferson, Clarion, M'Kean and Elk—Timothy Ives

Total—Locofocos 17  
Whigs 16  
Locofoco majority 1

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

- Adams—Daniel M. Smyser
- Allegheny—Jonas R. McClintock, Wm. Espey, John Miller, R. C. Walker
- Armstrong—John S. Rhey
- Bradford—Chas. Stockwell, Joseph C. Powell
- Bedford—John Cessa, Samuel Robinson
- Beaver—John Allison, William Smith
- Berks—Daniel Zerbey, Wm. Shaffner, Alex. S. Feather, John C. Evans
- Blair—Charles E. Kinkead
- Butler—D. H. B. Brower
- Bucks—H. A. Williams, James Flowers, Edward Nichleson
- Crawford—Benj. B. Davidson, Anson Leonard
- Centre and Clearfield—John B. Meeck, Wm. J. Hemphill
- Chester—David J. Bent, John Acker, John A. Bover
- Columbia—Benjamin P. Fortney
- Cumberland—Henry Church, Thos. C. Scouller
- Cambria—William A. Smith
- Delaware—James J. Lewis
- Dauphin—John B. Rutherford, Thomas Ducon
- Erie—James C. Reid, Leffert Hart
- Franklin—William Baker, John M'Lean
- Fayette—James P. Downer, Joseph E. Griffin
- Green—Lewis Roberts
- Huntingdon—Augustus K. Cornyn
- Indiana—William Evans
- Jefferson, Clarion and Venango—John S. M'Callmont, John Hastings
- Lebanon—John W. Killinger
- Lehigh and Carbon—R. Klotz, Samuel Marx
- Luzerne—J. N. Conyngham, Andrew Beaumont
- Lancaster—Andrew Wade, Lewis Hurford, Robert Baldwin, Jacob Nessly, A. Scott Ewing
- Lycoming, Clinton and Potter—Wm. Brindle, William Dunn
- Mifflin—Alexander Gibboney
- Montgomery—Daniel Evans, Wm. T. Morrison, William Henry
- Mercer—John Hoge, Morris Leech
- Northumberland—John B. Packer
- Northampton and Monroe—Jas. M. Porter, Michael Meyers, John D. Morris
- Perry—David Steward
- Philadelphia city—Thomas C. Steele, George H. Hart, Charles O'Neill, Jesse R. Burden, Craig Biddle
- Philadelphia county—Thomas K. Finletter, Fayette Pierson, Jos. C. Molloy, Washington J. Jackson, Richard Simpson, William H. Souder, Henry Huplet, Sylvester Cridland
- Schuylkill—Nicholas Jones, William J. Dobbins
- Somerset—Henry Little
- Susquehanna and Wyoming—Sidney B. Wells, Ezekiel Mowry
- Tioga—Jeremiah Black
- Washington—Jonathan D. Leet, Thomas Watson
- Westmoreland—Harrison P. Laird, John F. M'Callloch, Joseph Guffey
- Warren, M'Kean and Elk—Glenni W. Scofield
- Wayne and Pike—Thomas R. Grier
- Union and Juniata—Eh. Stifer, John M'Laughlin
- York—Edmund Trone, Jacob S. Haldeman, Alexander C. M'Curdy

Surely there never was a time when so many happy couples were desirous of severing the silken bands of matrimony. The Butler case in Philadelphia has its rival in the quiet city of New London, where a couple by the name of Holland each applied to be divorced from the other, and were gratified. In this city we heard of a curious application to a Judge to decide upon the rival claims of two married ladies to the person of one happy man. One of the claimants admitted she was informally married in an Eastern State, and agreed to relinquish her claim for the sum of \$5,000. The price was paid, and the husband married a very wealthy lady of this city about a year ago. The first wife now renounces her offer to be obedient if taken back, to which the second wife replies that, that wedding was no wedding, and the husband produces the bill of sale of the lady's right and title to be obedient and buxom at bed and board.—N. Y. Era.

**Death of a Miser.**—The Picayune, says, that an old miser, a planter, died at Attakapas, lately, who was worth, in money, land, and negroes, at least \$200,000. He had his coffin made, before his death, of rough, unheated planks, in which were found, after his death, some two or three thousand dollars in gold. Secured in the ceiling of the house was found \$45,000 in gold, and in an iron chest, also a very large amount in gold and paper.

**Pictures on Glass.**  
The Philadelphia North American has been favored by the Messrs. Langenheim with a view of numerous pictures of the photograph kind—true sun pictures—executed on glass. This is a new art, the invention of the Messrs. Langenheim, and the results they have obtained are equally surprising and beautiful. There are portraits, landscape views, copies of daguerotypes, &c., exhibiting the powers of the new method, which admits of numerous useful and important applications.

**The Telegraph Office at Easton received \$60 for tolls during the first day.**  
Snow fell to the depth of two inches at Temple, N. H., on the 7th inst.

Vote for Canal Commissioner.

The following is the vote for Canal Commissioner in this State. Where the figures are carried out in detail, the returns are official.

	Gamble.	Fuller.
Allegheny	5103	6226
Adams	1246	1545
Armstrong	200	
Berks	6827	2877
Beaver	1884	1875
Bucks	4657	4432
Bedford	2579	2524
Blair	1310	1730
Butler	2092	2172
Bradford	2687	2434
Cambria	1375	1128
Carbon	756	490
Chester	4238	5085
Centre	2093	1382
Cumberland	2909	2588
Columbia	2423	1696
Crawford	2483	2204
Clarion	1851	940
Clinton	1001	670
Clearfield	891	526
Dauphin	2108	2788
Delaware	1311	1743
Elk	100	
Erie	1369	2503
Fayette	2645	2113
Franklin	2666	3097
Forest (new)		
Greene	700	
Huntingdon	1330	1787
Indiana	1230	1729
Juniata	1099	929
Jefferson	870	463
Lebanon	1788	2378
Lancaster	4224	7123
Lehigh	2594	2317
Lycoming	2130	1524
Luzerne	3149	2578
Lawrence (new)	1067	1989
Monroe	1303	251
Mercer	2618	2424
Mifflin	1309	1031
Montgomery	5081	3698
M'Kean	110	
Northampton	2982	2215
Northumberland	1874	1111
Perry	1419	927
Philadelphia city	4602	7386
Philadelphia co.	14680	11714
Pike	655	119
Potter	546	282
Schuylkill	3551	3478
Somerset	964	2141
Sullivan	330	149
Susquehanna	2073	1361
Tioga	1681	1183
Union	1820	2431
Venango	1028	511
Westmoreland	4097	2377
Washington	450	
Warren	972	784
Wayne	650	
Wyoming	706	766
York	4035	3359
Total	136,174	124,637

Kimber Cleaver, the Native American Candidate, received the following vote:—Phila. city and county, 2,513; Montgomery, 82; Berks, 2; Dauphin, 45; Allegheny, 423; Northumberland, 62.

**From the Public Ledger.**  
Observing from the accounts published in your paper, and also others, that many deaths had taken place from dysentery, I feel it my duty to give the public a simple prescription, which I have used on board my ship for passengers and seamen, in the many voyages to Calcutta, Madras, Canton and in after voyages to New Orleans, which I assure I never knew to fail in making a complete cure.

It is only to drink a teacup full of West India molasses, (say Trinidad,) for a full grown person, reducing the quantity as to age. It is not an unpleasant dose. I have seldom had to repeat the dose a second time.

A few days since I met with a gentleman, a captain in the army, just returned from Mexico, to whom I had spoken of it in Washington two years since. He mentioned to me how fortunate it was I had given him the prescription. It had been used in his regiment with great success, and saved the life of many a poor fellow. I hope, some persons afflicted will try it and make report for the general benefit.

The Washington County Hunt.

We learn from the Washington Reporter of the 17th, that a number of citizens of that county recently organized for the purpose of a grand hunt, dividing into two parties, one under Capt. Bausman of the Reporter, and the other under Capt. Bryson. It was agreed that the party beaten should pay for a supper for the whole, and this honor, by accident, fell upon our worthy cotemporary. The game counted—and by the terms of the agreement, none was to be received after nine o'clock—was by Capt. Bausman's 1,067, giving Capt. Bryson a majority of 206. But 30 minutes after nine, Capt. Bausman arrived with 455 pieces, which, could they have been counted, would have given him a majority of 249. The Reporter says:—

This was certainly the greatest Hunt that has ever taken place in this country, and excited intense interest in both town and country. The whole amount of the different kinds of game killed, as counted by the Committee, was:—Squirrels, 1,593; Partridges, 21; Pigeons, 15; Hawks, 5; Owls 6; Crows, 5; Coons, 26; Ground-hogs, 4; Pheasants, 19; Ducks, 2; Opossums, 134; Rabbits, 23;—making a total of 2,340. Add to this Captain Bausman's excluded game, 455, and we have a grand total 2,795. In the excluded game of Capt. Bausman, there were 316 squirrels; 9 Coons; 12 Opossums; 4 Pheasants; 2 Rabbits; with sundry other game.

A Curious Fact.

The whole population of the United States could be compressed into the space of one mile square, and each individual be allowed sufficient room to breathe in. Fifteen inches square would suffice for this. There are 1760 yards in a mile, which multiplied, gives 63,360 inches and this product divided by fifteen, the amount of space occupied by each individual, would place 4224 of them in a row to extend the length of a mile; and the same number of rows to complete a square mile would consequently number 17,842,576.

Pennsylvania.

While the Whigs of Pennsylvania generally have behaved miserably at the recent Election, there are some Counties which have done nobly. In Armstrong, Bedford, Columbia, Luzerne, and Westmoreland, the usual Loco-Foco majorities have been handsomely reduced.—Chester has given an unusual Whig majority. Crawford has elected one Whig and one Free-Soil member in place of Loco-Focos. Bradford has elected one Whig, for the first time in many years. Butler has gone Whig, last year Loco. Bucks, last year all wrong, has now chosen a Whig Senator and two out of three Representatives. But the most brilliant struggle was made in old Northampton, almost always good for 1,000 Loco-Foco, but where ALEX. E. BROWN, the able and energetic Whig candidate for Senator, is beaten only 126, and in the District (Northampton and Lehigh) only about 300. A like effort in Lehigh would have secured a Whig Senate, and saved the State from being distrusted as badly as possible this winter for many years to come. But regrets are now idle.

Whoever supposes that the late Election in Pennsylvania indicates hostility on her part to the Whig National Administration, is deceived. Forty thousand Whigs and only twenty thousand Loco-Focos did not take enough interest in the immediate results of this Election to go to the Polls. It will not always be so.—Tribune.

The Election in California.

A correspondent of the Boston Times gives the following account of the way the election was conducted in the diggings:

On the day appointed we were encamped six miles below our present location. During the hot part of the day, the season of the siesta, a young, intelligent-looking man, came into the camp on a mule and invited us all to turn out and go to the polls. We had been in the country but a few days, and knew very little of its local politics, but decided upon following the young man to the Big Bar, where the election was to be held, and there gather what information we could. Off we went by the mule path, over hill and ravine, craggy rocks, and through thorny chapparal, until we came to the Bar. The place of meeting was a store-tent, and here we met about twenty miners. We arranged ourselves along on a log under the edge of the tent and waited the progress of events.

Directly our guide took off his hat and nominated a moderator for the meeting, then three inspectors and a clerk, all of whom were chosen without a dissenting voice. At the request of one of our party, he then stated the object of the election, and at the same time informed us that the first name on the prepared ballot for delegates to the Convention was his own. One of the prominent questions in the election was an expression as to whether slavery shall be allowed in California. The Candidate, though a Louisianian, was opposed out and out to the introduction of slavery here, and so we all voted for him. For myself, I was of the opinion of an old mountaineer, who, leaning against the tent pole, harangued the crowd, that in a country where every white man made a slave of himself, there was no use in keeping niggers. I deposited my ballot in an old candle box in accordance with this opinion.

The Population of the World.

Nine hundred and sixty millions of human beings are supposed to be on the earth; of which Europe is said to contain 153,000,000; Africa 156,000,000; Asia 500,000,000; America 150,000,000, and the islands in the Pacific 7,000,000. If divided into thirty equal parts, five of them will be Christians, six Mahomedans, one part Jews and eight Pagans. Christians are numerous in Europe and America, some in the south of Asia, Africa, and the south-east of Europe. Pagans abound in Africa, and in the interior of America, some in Asia, and a small number in the north of Europe.

The Democrats are the most reliable party in the country.—Union.

Exactly, they lie and re-lie from one year's end to another.—Commonwealth.

The Belvidere Delaware Railroad Company advertise to receive subscriptions, payable after the work is commenced above the point on the line of the road designated by the subscriber for said stock. The people on the line of the road are of course deeply interested in the project. The social and commercial benefits of railway facilities have been strikingly illustrated wherever they exist. The small village of Whitehouse, in Hunterdon Co., is said to have become the centre of a heavy trade since the Somerville and Easton road has been extended to it. The produce of the rich country bordering on the Delaware beyond, now finds a convenient depot there, and is thence brought to the sea-board. When the road is completed to Easton, a large part of that portion of Pennsylvania, which has hitherto gone to Philadelphia, will probably be diverted through New Jersey to New York.

The influence of railroads is made apparent by a recent estimate of the personal and real estate of the two cities of Boston and New York. It is found that the former is indebted, for her recent rapid growth, to her superior enterprise in railroads. The valuation of real and personal estate in New York, at the commencement of the present year \$254,193,527, which, compared with that of 1840 exhibits an increase of only 1,350,373; while that of Boston shows an increase of \$73,097,400 during the same interval. In 1840, the wealth of Boston, in real estate amounted to \$94,631,600 while at the present time it is estimated at \$167,728,000.—Newark Adv.

New Work from Mr. Calhoun.

The N. Y. Enquirer understands that Hon. John C. Calhoun has devoted the past summer to the preparation of a treatise on the Elementary Principles of Government and the Constitution of the United States; and that it is so nearly complete that he expects to prepare it for publication in his leisure hours during the coming season of Congress. It will probably be published by the Harpers in connection with an edition of his Speeches, Reports, &c., which discuss Constitutional questions. The work cannot fail to be one of marked interest and value.