



Jeffersonian Republican

Very little of interest to our readers was done in either house during the past week. A bill to improve the Delaware Division was read in place in the Senate and House. A series of resolutions on the subject of slavery has been reported to the Senate—taking ground in favor of sustaining all constitutional provisions, but against any extension of the institution. A bill for the election of Prosecuting Attorneys was passed by a vote of 29 to 9. A bill to divorce Edwin Forest from his wife was passed through Committee by a large majority. A message from the Governor on the subject of Slavery, was read in both houses.

Several divorce bills have been passed, and it would seem that the high and noble ground assumed by the legislature at the commencement of the session, upon the recommendation of the Governor, has been abandoned.

Congress Last Week.

The slavery question was discussed in both houses. Mr. Dayton made an able speech on the subject in the Senate. The Census bill, and Mr. Bradbury's resolutions calling upon the President for his reasons for removing office holders, were discussed. A bill to pay the Winnebago Indians \$12,000 was passed in the Senate.

The bill to supply deficiencies in appropriations, and resolutions in favor of Whitney's railroad to the Pacific, were discussed, and the latter laid on the table by a vote of 83 to 51.

The Judiciary Bill.

The bill now before the House of Representatives in relation to the Judiciary, proposes to divide the state into eighteen common pleas judicial districts, in place of twenty-four, as at present, and that twenty law judges, shall be chosen, as follows, upon the first election by the people.

- I. Philadelphia—three law judges.
II. Lancaster and York.
III. Bucks, Northampton and Lehigh.
IV. Berks and Schuylkill.
V. Wayne, Pike and Monroe.
VI. Union, Northumberland, Lycoming and Sullivan.
VII. Centre, Mifflin, Juniata and Perry.
VIII. Dauphin, Lebanon and Cumberland.
IX. Adams, Franklin, Bedford and Somerset.
X. Huntingdon, Blair, Cambria, Clearfield and Jefferson.
XI. Luzerne, Wyoming, Susquehanna and Bradford.
XII. Clinton, Tioga, Potter, McKean and Elk.
XIII. Westmoreland, Indiana, Armstrong and Clarion.
XIV. Allegheny.
XV. Washington, Fayette and Greene.
XVI. Beaver, Butler, Mercer and Lawrence.
XVII. Crawford, Erie, Venango and Warren.
XVIII. Chester, Delaware and Montgomery.

The President and associates of the first district, \$2,500 a year salary; of the other districts, \$2,000, and mileage. No provision is made for district or other courts, in the bill.

Bridge at Easton.

The Governor of New Jersey has signed the bill passed by the Legislature of that State, authorizing the Lehigh, Schuylkill and Susquehanna Railroad Company to construct a bridge across the Delaware river at Easton. It is necessary that the Legislature of this State should pass a similar bill before the bridge can be built.

The New York Tribune thinks another revolution in France is inevitable and near at hand.

A Freshet.—From the Norristown Watchman we learn that the heavy rain of Wednesday week caused a tremendous rise in the Schuylkill, on Thursday. The river was higher at this place than it has been at any time during the last five years, and had there been ice on the river the damage would probably have been as heavy as the great freshet in 1841; as it was, the fences along the banks were swept away, causing a very heavy loss to the farmers, in the vicinity of the river.

Transportation in a new Way.

The Pottsville Mining Register gives the following as the latest wrinkle in the way of transportation—a scheme that will doubtless ruin the railroad and canal if it ever should be put in execution: "A considerable stir is being made at this time about the new mode proposed for transporting coal from Schuylkill county to Philadelphia, by water enclosed in cast iron tubes of wide diameter. The fall being 600 feet in 90 miles, is considered sufficient, and the coal being less than one third heavier than water, it is thought that two thirds water and one-third coal will be the right proportion. It is demonstrated that 18,000 tons can be passed daily through a single tube of 3 feet in diameter, at a cost of 25 cents per ton. This may give you a smile. But less likely things have succeeded, and capitalists are ready to embark in it, if experiments about to be made, prove successful."

A bill to prevent the destruction of small and harmless birds, has passed the New Jersey Legislature. It prohibits persons from destroying, except on their own premises, under penalty of \$5, any of the following description of birds or their eggs, viz: the night or mosquito hawk, chimney swallow, barn swallow, martin or swift, whip-poor-will, chuckoo, king bird or bee martin, woodpecker, clasp or night hole, cat bird, blue bird, hanging bird, ground robin or chawink, boblink or rice bird robin, snow or chipping bird, sparrow, charoline lit, warbler, bat, black bird, blue jay and the small owl.

The wheat crop in some parts of Maryland is very unpromising.

THE TRIAL OF DR. WEBSTER.

The trial of Dr. Webster for the murder of Dr. Parkman, which has created so much excitement throughout the country, was commenced in the Judiciary Court at Boston on Monday, the 19th inst. A jury was empaneled without unusual difficulty. The prisoner wore a composed and somewhat melancholy appearance, but in other respects was much as usual.

About 11 o'clock the indictment was read, and Mr. Clifford, the Attorney-General, commenced his opening in a deliberate and solemn manner, confining himself to a clear and succinct statement of facts in possession of the Government.

These facts, he averred, established two propositions:

- First—That Dr. Geo. Parkman was murdered.
Second—That Dr. John W. Webster committed the deed.

Dr. Parkman would be proved to have been alive on Friday, the 23d of November, and was last seen to enter the medical college, ten minutes before two o'clock in the afternoon of that day. He was a punctual man, particularly at his meals; had a sick daughter who he was tending, and on whom he was closely attendant. For her comfort he had purchased some lettuce—difficult at that season to obtain—which he left at a store, intending to call for it afterward to carry home to her. He entered the medical college, and was not again seen. The utmost search was made by his friends, aided by the entire police and liberal rewards; but no person had ever been found who had seen and conversed with him since that time.

On Sunday for the first time, Dr. Parkman's friends learned from Dr. Webster himself, that he had been in company with him on Friday, between 1 and 2 o'clock. On the 13th of Nov. were found in a privy vault in the Medical College, the pelvis and right thigh, to the knee, of a body corresponding to that of Dr. Parkman. On the evening after, were found in Dr. Webster's laboratory, in a tea chest, a thorax and left thigh, from the knee to the hips. Afterward were found, in the furnace of Dr. Webster, bones, a quantity of gold, and a block of mineral teeth. None of the bones found in the furnace were duplicates of those found in the tea chest or vault. The teeth would be fully identified by Dr. Keep as a set which he lately made for Dr. Parkman, and a mould would be shown which exactly corresponded to a jaw bone found in the furnace. The thorax was perforated in the region of the heart. There have been chemical applications of strong alkali to the remains, and the veins had not been injected with any preservative fluid. This was the evidence going to show that Dr. Parkman had been murdered.

On the second hand, that the prisoner murdered Dr. Parkman. Mr. Clifford went into a minute detail of Dr. Webster's pecuniary relations of 1842, when he borrowed money of him, and had been in debt and embarrassment ever since, and he would show that Dr. Webster dishonestly endeavored to raise money of Robert G. Shaw and others, on property mortgaged to Dr. Parkman, and that Dr. Parkman regarded him as a dishonest man, and pressed him accordingly to recover his debt; he alleged that it would be proved that Dr. Webster had made conflicting statements, and false ones, in relation to money paid to Dr. Parkman, and that at the time of the latter's disappearance, all of Dr. Webster's property was bound to him.

Mr. Clifford also dwelt at great length on Dr. Webster's conduct during the time of his arrest, and contended that a great number of circumstances would be found irreconcilable with the supposition of his innocence.

Mr. Clifford concluded a few minutes past 1 o'clock, and on motion of Mr. Sohler, the Court ordered all but medical witnesses to retire.

Charles M. Kingsley, the real estate agent of Dr. Parkman, and Robert G. Shaw, brother-in-law of the deceased, were examined the first day, but their evidence hardly sustains the positions assumed by the Attorney-General in his opening remarks; the witnesses, however, on whose testimony the Government mostly rely to sustain the prosecution have not yet been brought to the stand.

The evidence of Drs. Keep, Noble and Wyman, on Tuesday, was confined to the identification of the teeth, jaw, &c., the former having been made by Dr. Keep, and the conformation of the latter being so striking as to produce the general conviction that the body found was none other than that of Dr. Parkman. The Transcript in speaking of the bearing of the prisoner, says: "The appearance of the prisoner during the testimony of Drs. Keep and Noble was different from that exhibited by him at any other evidence produced. He was at times considerably agitated, and his facial muscles were observed to be violently twitching. He however labored to preserve an air of unconcern by frequently drumming his fingers on his chair; and looking about him upon the audience, although at the same time he watched with intense interest every word and movement of the witness."

It is said the whole number of witnesses on the part of the prosecution, in this case, is eighty-six. If these should all be called to the stand, and anything like an equal number appear for the defence, the trial is but just commenced.

Webster's counsel are confident they can clear him of the horrible accusation, and prove that it is a conspiracy to ruin him. If this is the case, what punishment is there sufficient for his accusers. The evidence, thus far, however, bears strongly against the prisoner.

Great Supply of Cattle.

A letter from Maysville, states that the number of cattle shipped eastward from that place, by way of the Ohio river and Pittsburgh, has gradually increased from 1,000 in 1847, to 5,000 in 1849, and that the number shipped thence this year will probably be \$20,000.

Several cases of hydrophobia have occurred within a few weeks in Morris county, N. J.

Jackson is to remain the capital of Mississippi, the legislature having voted down all the bills for removal. The proposition to make Vicksburg the seat of government received nineteen votes to seventy-two against it.

More Mysterious Knockings.

HONESDALE, Pa., March 22. Night before last the inmates of a boarding house in this town were kept awake all night by a knocking quite as mysterious as the Rochester knockings. Means were taken to discover the cause, but without success. The noise always eluded pursuit, and seemed to keep the same distance from the pursuers. The matter has created quite a sensation here.

The Newtown Journal has been discontinued, and the subscription list transferred to the Bucks County Intelligencer, the proprietor of which has also purchased the materials of the Journal office.

General Taylor's Plantation Submerged.

The Cincinnati Commercial of the 14th states, that when the steamers Yorkman, Capt. Halde-man, passed Gen. Z. Taylor's plantation, on the Mississippi river, forty miles above Natches, the entire place was under water from an overflow in the Mississippi. Captain Halde-man says he never saw that point so completely submerged, and fears are entertained of the total ruin of numerous plantations, and of course the bankruptcy of some of the owners.

The thermometer in New Orleans on the fourteenth stood at 80. The ladies displayed their summer fashions and beavers and cloth pants gave way to straw hats and nankeens.

Vermont, by annual election, has again decided against granting licenses for the sale of intoxicating drinks. The vote just held shows the following result; for licences, 12,600; against licences, 19,940; majority against the licences, 7,340.—Every county in the state, but Washington and Essex, went with the majority.

The Sea Serpent.

The sea monster recently seen on the coast of the Carolinas, has at length, according to report been captured. It is of the whale species—has the head of a whale, with a snakish body, and several protuberances on the back of hoghead size. There were two grown whales and two calves, which from their position were supposed to be one "serpent." The grown whales were about 40 feet in length.

Honesdale Bank.

Some little anxiety has been manifest in the community, consequent upon the investigation into the condition of this Bank by the appropriate committee in the House of Representatives. It is no doubt true that the Bank has at this time a large amount of paper in circulation, but that is no reason why any apprehensions should be felt as to its ability to redeem its issues and to conduct its affairs with the same integrity and fairness, which has heretofore characterized its operations. This institution is yet acting under its old charter, and a difference of opinion as to its privileges between the Legislature and the Directors, caused the present investigation. Both papers at Honesdale are confident that no alarm need exist as to the Bank. The Democrat says:

"It was anticipated that the action of the Legislature would, to some extent, occasion a run upon the Bank. Such has not been the result. The laborers on the canal and railroads have drawn some inconsiderable sums; but the business men of this region have manifested the utmost confidence in the bank. They have neither presented bills for payment in specie nor withdrawn their deposits. To accommodate such of the laborers as might desire to exchange notes for coin, the Bank is kept open, each day, some four hours longer than usual, and the demands upon it have been principally paid in American gold. At the agency of the Bank in New York less than the ordinary amount of bills has, during the last few days, been presented for redemption. The Bank is conducting its business as usual, and is fully prepared to meet all its obligations, whenever presented. No institution ever enjoyed a higher credit, and none ever better deserved the confidence reposed in it.

Let the action of the Legislature be what it may, the bills of the Bank are as good security as any body need desire. Its stock is worth a premium, even if the concern should be closed up, of which occurrence, however, we entertain no fears."

No one should part with a dollar of the notes of the Bank for less than their face. We are assured by one who knows, that the investigation at Harrisburg has all ended in 'smoke,' and that the Bank has specie to pay every dollar as fast as presented.

The Amherst (N. H.) Cabinet, in answer to the inquiry of Mr. Webster as to what will become of the American flag in case of a dissolution of the Union, suggests that the North will take the stars and the South the stripes.

The "gallant Captain May," whom the papers had killed off, we see it stated, is alive and in good health and is preparing to depart for the Indian country. The Captain May who is reported to have died in San Francisco is supposed to be James R. May, of Virginia.

The new New York Tribune says that "Ned Bunline" has not been pardoned, and "knows no reason to suppose that he is likely to be."

The Belvidere Bank has declared a dividend of 5 per ct. for the last six months, payable on the 1st of April.

At the Philadelphia City Election on the 15th inst. the whigs prevailed in the whole of the seventeen Wards, except Upper Delaware and Pine. In one or two of the Wards the vote was very close. In the Northern Liberties the Democrats have met with their usual success. The Whigs in this District have elected four Aldermen.

SMUGGLING DIAMONDS.—Upon opening a suspicious looking foreign letter which was recently put into the N. Y. Post Office, it was found to contain diamonds to the amount of about \$6000. The evident intention was to smuggle, and the Admiralty Court of N. Y. therefore declared the diamonds to be forfeited.

It is said that a new route for a ship canal across the Isthmus of Darien has been found.—On this route there are now but 12 miles of land travel. The passage can be made from sea to sea in 36 hours, and it is said one week of time will be saved to the steamers—two days on the Atlantic and four on the Pacific. If so, the route to California will be shortened not less than eight days.

GREENEY FOR PRESIDENT.—The New York Times says that it is understood that an effort will be made by the Northern Free-Soil party, to concentrate their strength in the next canvass upon Horace Greeley for President.

The journeymen carpenters of New York have struck for an increase of their wages to \$1 75 per day. On Monday they had a procession four deep and nearly a mile long.

It is the opinion of Mr. Webster, stated in his recent speech, that "there has been collected and paid to abolition societies, abolition presses, and abolition lecturers, within the last twenty years, as much money as would purchase the freedom of every slave, man, woman and child in the state of Maryland, and send them to Liberia."

"Father what does the printer live on?"
"Wily, child."
"Because you said you had not paid him for four years and still take the paper."
"Wife, spank that inquisitive serpent."

The Apportionment Bill.

Last week, we briefly alluded to the apportionment bill which had passed the House of Representatives of this State, and been sent to the Senate. The character of the bill may be inferred from the following: the ratio fixed for a Senator is 14,700 taxables. The bill gives to the county of Philadelphia four Senators, at the ratio of 13,000 taxables, and to the city of Philadelphia and the county of Lancaster, one Senator each, at a ratio of 22,700 taxables! This is a specimen of this outrageous bill. It is rather astonishing that men who are bound by oath to legislate for the whole people regardless of party, should so district the State, as to make 13,000 Locos equivalent to 22,700 Whigs, for this is the case in substance, Philadelphia county being Loco and Philadelphia city and Lancaster county, Whig.

Desolation and Misery in Hungary.

The New York Tribune translates some Hungarian correspondence from the Kolnische Zeitung, from which it appears that the country, already desolated by pestilence and war, is being stripped of its inhabitants by the conscriptions for the army, every one being enrolled, who served in the revolutionary war.—Already 70,000 Hungarians have been enrolled. There are not hands enough left to sow the fields, and the burnt-down villages cannot be rebuilt. When the Hungarians come before the courts of justice, they are insultingly repulsed by the magistrates as "Hungarian dogs," and the utmost rigor is exercised against them for the smallest offences. A bow cannot be bent beyond a certain degree before it will break; and so it must be with the Austrian yoke upon the neck of Hungary.

The Mormons.

In the Senate a day or two ago, Mr. Underwood submitted a petition from a body of Mormons who present very grievous complaints against their brethren of Deseret, and they charge that the Mormons about Council Bluffs, who have possession of the region of district and control the post office, obstruct the free circulation of information through their papers, by which they are prevented from enlightening that sect, and spreading useful information among them. They wish the interposition of Congress, and particularly the Post Office Department, and that free information may be circulated among their brethren.

The Rockville (Md.) Journal says:—"Our farmers are progressing with their work, and our gardens are receiving the attention of our house-wives. The wheat shows beautifully, and generally speaking, our people are in excellent spirits, all hands hurrahing for Union—particularly the young ladies."

The New Bedford Mercury states that Captain Timothy Colby, in that city, has a bed cord made of whale's sinews, which has been in the Colby family since 1640—200 years—and is now as good as a dozen new hemp cords. It has never been broken.

An indignant husband in Dearbon county, Ind., a few days since, brought suit against a chap for kissing his wife. The matter was compromised by the chap agreeing to pay the injured husband \$16.

On the 6th instant, snow to the depth of three feet lay upon the ground in the western part of the State of New York.

Foreign and Domestic Labor.

The Philadelphia Inquirer, thinks that the "recent communication of Sir Henry Lytton Bulwer ought not to excite any surprise or astonishment, because it has been notorious, that since 1845 British agents and manufacturers have been much more consulted and advised with at Washington than American. Indeed, an American manufacturer cannot be heard, because he is an interested party—a monopolist. The "hue and cry" is raised at once that he belongs to the privileged class. It is, however to be hoped, that such moves as that of the British Minister, will open the eyes of the good people of this country to the effects of the bill of 1846, the tendency of which is to encourage foreign labor at the expense of our own.

The Scarlet Fever prevails to an alarming extent, in Lancaster county, Pa. In seven days Mr. John Lavery, of East Hempfield township, lost six children.

Discovery in Oregon.—The California papers mention the discovery of a new and fine entrance to the mouth of the Columbia River. It is called the Southern Pass, and has heretofore been represented to be impracticable.—This "Pass" will no doubt be used by the South in slipping out of the Union!

A fellow, who looked, as Jeemes said, in the account of a trip to Greenbush, very much in the "sear and yellow leaf," popped his head into our sanctum and asked if we had any old jewelry to dispose of. Jewelry about a printing office! and editor the possessor of an ear ring!! Shade of Faust! one might as well look for honesty in a Locooco paper or conscience in a doctor's bill.—Albany Knickerbocker.

COURTS.

In 1850, the courts of Carbon county, will commence on the following days:

- The Third, Monday of April.
" First " " " June,
" Fifth " " " September, and
" " " " " December.

John Johnston, convicted at Patterson, N. J. of the murder of Judge Van Winkle and his wife, has been sentenced to be hung on the 30th April.

The Next Election.

The Whig State Convention, to nominate a candidate for Canal Commissioner, is to be held in Philadelphia on the 19th June next.—The time for organization and preparation for the election, after that convention, will be short. It becomes the Whigs of the state, therefore, to begin now to prepare for the work before them. They have seen the disastrous result of apathy and indifference; and they know also that if they will but make the effort, they can accomplish a brilliant triumph. The state was carried for Zachary Taylor and for Wm. F. Johnston, and it can be done again for whomsoever the Whigs of the state choose to nominate. But it can only be done by systematic, straight-forward, persevering exertion.

The Pennsylvania Telegraph in the course of a well-timed article, calling the Whigs of the State to their duty, suggests the re-nomination of Henry M. Fuller, if he will again accept the arduous position of Whig standard bearer, in the contest, and proceeds to show by a comparison of the votes for several years back, that Mr. Fuller possesses a popularity at the north, enjoyed perhaps by no other man, while his experience and zeal eminently fit him for the station, and render him the most likely to bring out the full vote and the united strength of the party.

The popularity of Mr. Fuller at home is clearly proven by the fact that Luzerne county which gave Gov. Shunk in 1847, 1279 majority, gave Mr. Gamble, in 1849, but 571 majority, and his strong position in the north generally is shown by a comparison of the majorities in the northeastern counties in 1848 and 1849, which the Telegraph furnishes, from which it will be seen he made an inroad upon the opposition vote in those counties of upwards of two thousand.

Table with columns: MAJORITIES, 1848, 1849, Longstreth, Gamble. Rows: Bradford (507, 103), Columbia (1177, 777), Luzerne (818, 571), Monroe (1344, 1062), Northampton (925, 767), Pike (488, 536), Susquehanna (819, 712), Tioga (858, 490), Wyoming (156, ---), Wayne (617, 673), Total (7709, 5698).

Fuller's maj. in Wyoming, 2010
Making a total gain of 2066

And this was accomplished when Mr. Fuller was opposed by a northern man, taken up solely with the view of commanding the vote of the north, and shaping all his opinions and efforts to that end.

Ripe Strawberries have made their appearance in the New York market. A cultivator of the fruit says that "his strawberries are like gold dust at present." He adds: "I have had an offer of two dollars a dozen for them, but do not wish to disappoint you. You can have the whole twenty-one for \$2.50. I am almost ashamed of this, but could do better at home."

Foreign News.

By the arrival of the Niagara, we have European news two weeks later—Liverpool dates to the 9th inst.

The Cotton market was dull with a decline in prices.

The Corn market ditto—Corn having fallen from six to nine pence per 480 pounds, and flour one and six pence per barrel.

American stocks were improving—Pennsylvania Fives selling at 93 a 94.

Manufacturing in England was depressed. Commercially and politically there is no news of importance. Queen Victoria has offered rewards for the discovery and relief of Sir John Franklin, amounting to £40,000.

The Canadian Annexation movement excites but little attention. Public opinion appears to be favorable to acceding to any decided expression of the wishes of the Canadians.

Public sentiment is strong against Lord Palmerston for continuing the Greek blockade; and it is believed the Russians will give the Greeks efficient aid.

Nothing of any importance from France or any other portion of the Continent.

Horrible Revenge.

The Galena Jeffersonian says, among the overland emigrants for California last spring, was Mr. Green, of "Green's Wollen Factory," Fox River, and two of his sons, the youngest a youth. It is reported that while passing through a tribe of Indians, this young man killed a squaw. The tribe having become well advised of the fact, hastened after the company and overtook them, and demanded the murderer. At first the demand was resisted; but after the Indians had informed them that they would destroy the company if their request was not granted, the youth was surrendered into their hands. They then stripped him, and in the presence of his father and the whole company, they skinned him from his head to his feet. He lived four hours after he was thus flayed.

Auctioneer.—A bill has been introduced into the lower branch of the Legislature, says the Easton Argus, providing that after the first day of June next, any citizen of this State, residing in Easton, who deposits twenty-five dollars into the State Treasury, and a bond with two or more sureties for two thousand dollars, shall be appointed Auctioneer for the Borough, by the Governor. The bill requires the Auctioneer to pay into the State Treasury a tax or duty of one quarter per cent on all sales of loans or stocks, and one and a quarter per cent on all other sales made. All uncommissioned persons are prohibited from making sale, at public auction of any merchandise, estate or property whatsoever, under penalty of \$100, except Sheriffs, Constables, Executors or Administrators.

Death of an Eastonian in California.—The last arrival from California, brings the news of the death of Frederick F. Randolph, at San Francisco, on the third of January last. He was a house carpenter by trade and left a wife and several children to mourn his loss.