



C. D. MURRAY, Editor. D. C. ZAHM, Publisher.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1859.

THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF ROBERT BURNS.

Tuesday of last week, the 26th ult., was the centennial anniversary of the birth of the Scottish Poet, ROBERT BURNS; and we are pleased to learn from our exchanges that the day was celebrated in all our cities and large towns with remarkable spirit and enthusiasm. These tributes to the memory of the "bard peasant" show that the people of the United States are capable of admiring true genius and genuine poetry. We think we hazard nothing in saying that Burns was one of the most remarkable literary men that the nineteenth century produced. Born of poor parents, in an obscure district of Scotland, and compelled from his earliest years to toil for his sustenance, he was denied the early training and culture of his mind necessary to develop its faculties, and his noble genius was hidden from the world by the obscurity of his name. Yet, notwithstanding all these disadvantages, his poems, on their first appearance, immediately elicited the admiration of all who perused them; and few were willing to believe that they were the production of an "Ayrshire Ploughman." And now, wherever the English language is spoken, his works are read, and are universally acknowledged to bear the impress of genius as distinctly as those of SHAKESPEARE and MILTON. Indeed, if we may trust our limited experience, his fame is now more universal than that of any other author in the English language, living or dead. The reason of this probably is, that his writings are adapted to the comprehension and taste of every condition and rank in society. Their personal interests and affords pleasure alike to the prince and the peasant, the learned and the illiterate—all, after perusing the volume of his immortal poems, are compelled to exclaim—"he was a poet indeed." SHAKESPEARE and MILTON are read and admired by the learned, and that class of society called the refined. But, as we said before, the fame of BURNS is not confined to any class or condition:—His poems are perused with pleasure by those who, after reading one of SHAKESPEARE'S plays, or a book of "Paradise Lost," would ask you what the author meant.— We have visited homes where BURNS' Poems were the sole companion of the family Bible and the Manual of Devotions, and to the inmates of which his inspired lays were as familiar as household words. When we mentioned the names of SHAKESPEARE and MILTON we were stared at; but all knew who we meant when we spoke of the "Ayrshire Ploughman." Beneath the straw-thatched roofs of Scotland, in the homes of "Merrie England," in the hands of the Irish peasant, in the palace and the hovel, the Poems of BURNS are to be found. But his fame stops not there—the freemen of America are after all perhaps the most ardent admirers of the bard whose independent spirit, like those of the men of '76, "oppression could not subdue." Of this we need produce no other proofs than the celebrations to which we alluded in the commencement of this article.

When he breathed his last, his fame was just beginning to spread beyond the limits of Scotland, and it is more than probable that he died unconscious of the immortality that awaited his name. Although neglected and shunned by the nobility of his native land, the strains which he sung touched the heart of the nation, and placed him in the list in which his genius entitled him to stand. Although he died in extreme poverty, and without any of the great ones of this world to watch his last moments, yet, in spite of all the efforts of malice and envy to obscure his fame he is now proudly recognized by his native land as her "own inspired bard," and the straw-thatched cottage in which he was born is now hallowed and sacred—one of the Meccas of the mind, the pilgrims to which are not confined to any nation or clime.

A living author has truly and beautifully said that "there is a certain charm about great superiority of intellect that winds into deep affections, which a much more constant and even amiability of manners in lesser men, often fail to reach. Genius makes many enemies, but it makes sure friends—friends who forgive much, who endure long, who exact little. There lingers about the human heart a strong inclination to look upward, to reverence. In this inclination lies the source of religion and loyalty. And in truth it is a divine pleasure to admire. Admiration seems in some measure to appropriate to ourselves the qualities it honors in others. We wed—we root ourselves to the nature we so love to contemplate, and their life grows a part of our own." The life of BURNS affords a convincing proof of the truth of these reflections. It was not power, or wealth, or rank, but his "superiority of intellect," which enabled him to wind into the deep affections of his fellow countrymen, and rendered him, in spite of all his faults, the object of their veneration and love.

That BURNS had faults it is impossible, after perusing his biography, to deny. The most grievous of these was the love of intoxicating liquors, which, during the last few years of his life, ruled him with the power of an irresistible appetite. But probably this was as much a misfortune annexed to his peculiarly ardent and excitable temperament as a real fault. His biographer on this subject makes the following observations:—"The child of nature, the child of sensibility, unshooled in the rigid precepts of philosophy, too often unable to control the passions, which proved a frequent source of error and misfortune to him, BURNS made his own artless apology in language more impressive than all the argumentary vindications in the world could do, in one of his own poems, where he delineates the gradual expansion of his mind to the lessons of the tutelary muse, who concludes an

address to her pupil almost unique for simplicity and beautiful poetry, with these lines—  
I saw thy pulse's maddening way,  
Wild send the pleasures devious way,  
Mild by fancy's meteor ray,  
By passion driven,  
But yet the light that led astray,  
Was light from Heaven.  
But whatever may have been his faults or his follies, he will remain forever an example of what unaided genius can accomplish in spite of the efforts of envy and poverty to crush and suppress it.

It is impossible for a sincere member of the Democratic party to contemplate with silent patience, the course certain self-styled members, and would be leaders of the party are now pursuing. When the "English Bill" passed Congress we confidently hoped that the war of factions would immediately cease, and that in a few months we would hear nothing about Lecompton or Anti-Lecompton. But we have been disappointed. The men who disorganized during the last session of Congress, seem determined to be disorganizers still, and not to rest from their labors until the Democratic party is numbered among the things that were. They are constantly whining over their private grievances, real or imaginary, and seem to think that because they or their friends have been disappointed in obtaining a share of the spoils of office, the Democratic party must be broken up and destroyed. They seem to have adopted opposition to the National Administration, right or wrong, as the test of Democracy. This state of affairs should continue no longer. We have been wrangling and quarrelling among ourselves too long already, and "Union and Harmony" should now be our motto. If we go into the next Presidential contest with our ranks divided and disorganized, it will be vain for us to hope to triumph over the united hosts of the opposition. All should remember that the Democratic party has a higher and holier mission to perform than that of elevating certain men to office. It is the guardian of our free institutions of government, and the only shield of the Union against the efforts of the sectional organization, called the Black Republican Party, to weaken and destroy the league of love "which binds this fair broad Empire, Stat by State." All sincere members of the party should therefore at once manifest a disposition to forget past differences, and unite beneath the banner under which they battled in days gone by. If we wish to prevent Sectionalism from triumphing over the principle of Nationality, we must at once unite and prepare for the contest.

John W. Forney is the leader of the disorganizers in this State, and by the open falsehoods and misrepresentations of facts he is constantly promulgating through the columns of his paper, the Press, has doubtless succeeded in deceiving many honest Democrats. The following article which we clip from the Pennsylvaniaian, is well timed and will repay a perusal.  
The feverish and wild articles of the Press day by day indicate that the Editor of that journal is in an unhappy; disordered condition of mind. We pity the man. It is a common and familiar thing to hear others say, that he is to be pitied. What but some kind of monomania can induce him to annoy his readers and distress the public with violent and exasperated declamations about the President? The public care nothing for his private griefs. A wise Frenchman once said that the misfortunes of our friends are not always unpleasant to us. Cannot the Editor of the Press take some thought and wisdom from this saying of the Frenchman? Can he not see that if friends are not displeased with his troubles that enemies may be pleased. By this course he not only exposes that which a prudent man would wish to conceal—he not only shows how much he is displeased with himself and how much he is punished by his own tormenting thoughts, but he also gives credit to the idea that he is sometimes under the influence of other more vulgar excitement. He is fast drifting far away from the power of self-control. He is delivered over to his own passions, his unmanageable hatreds; had associations with bad men, but habits that gave a tone to all he says and all he does that will sooner or later reduce him low enough in the public judgment, as he perhaps is now in his own esteem. Take his own version of his own wrongs. He tells us that he is a cast-off instrument—neglected and degraded by those he has been the servant of; and then he publishes to the world the secrets of those who employed him, and divulges the private affairs of those under whom he held place. Madly he rails, like a discharged steward or bailiff, angry that he is removed, and full of vulgar spite. Indeed we pity him. Other men like the editor of the Press have been taken from mean places in life and put in exalted posts, and like him they have forgotten themselves and been unfaithful to those who honored them—honored them with rank and station, and all for favor. Such low men thus promoted are always presumptuous. MASSACHUSETTS was a kitchen boy. The great ruler of Russia favored him, and by his favor and countenance soon advanced him to the dignity of a prince; but the Czar could not endure MASSACHUSETTS with the qualities of a noble. With all his titles and dignities he was but a scullion, rapacious, indolent, wasteful, licentious and drunken. He conspired against his master and benefactor. He could not even attempt to poison him with the slanders of his pen, but he could plot against his life. Discovered and degraded he was sent to Siberia to learn there in those gloomy solitude that submission and obedience and sense of duty he had violated. Let the editor of the Press read this, our well-meant homily. Perhaps this may teach him something that will benefit him, as the consciousness of his merited punishment may deter and restrain him from his present excesses.

We clip the following item from the Johnstown Tribune of last week:—"As we go to press we learn that three young fellows belonging to this place have been arrested on the serious charge of attempting to commit a rape on a young girl from Conemaugh Station on Thursday evening. The girl was walking up the railroad in company with a male companion, when the young ruffians attacked her, and on her companion interfering to protect her, they fell upon him and beat him severely, during which she escaped. They will be sent up."

The public schools of this place will close in a few weeks, and we are pleased to learn that Mr. Henry Ely intends opening a school as soon as his engagement with the school directors expires. Mr. Ely is an excellent teacher, and we hope he will be liberally patronized. As the Principal of our Public schools, he has rendered universal satisfaction, and is deservedly popular with both pupils and parents.

We return our thanks to Mr. Wm. Seckler for a copy of "Foul's Orthographic Chart," with the Key accompanying it. We think it is well calculated, in the hands of an intelligent teacher, for communicating to pupils a correct knowledge of the elementary sounds of the English language. We recommend it to the careful examination of teachers, confident that if they do so they will be pleased with it.

The Ebensburg Brass Band will give a concert in the Court House to-morrow evening. Admission, 15 cents; children, 10 cents. All should attend. With Professor Smith as a leader, the Band cannot fail to discourse eloquent music.

We have received a communication signed "Northerner" which we will be happy to publish as soon as the author furnishes us his name. We publish no communications unless we know who the writer is.

No bill of importance has yet been passed by our State Legislature, except the Act abolishing the office of Canal Commissioner. We learn from Gen. McDonald, who returned from Harrisburg on last Saturday, that in the matter of the contested seat of Thomas H. Porter, member from this county, the testimony would close on that day, and the case be argued on Monday. In consequence of a majority of the committee being Republicans, the friends of Mr. Porter were sanguine of success. We will probably be able to announce the result next week.

The following persons were elected last Saturday officers of the Cambria County Agricultural Society for the ensuing year:  
President—James Myers.  
Vice Presidents—John Thompson, Jr., Jacob Fronheiser.  
Treasurer—A. C. Mullin, Esq.  
Secretary—P. S. Noon, Esq.  
Managers—John Evans, (Smith); John A. Blair; William Kayler; Rees J. Lloyd; M. M. Adams.

Sufferers from Scrofula and Scrofulous affections, clean up! Why wear your Pimples, Blotches, Ulcers, Sores? Why have the life twisted out of you by Dispepsia, Rheumatism and Gout? Why suffer Syphilitic and Mercurial diseases to rot the bones in your body, or the flesh off your bones? Why let your sluggish blood drag, and scatter its distempers through your veins? AYER'S COMPOUND OF Sarsaparilla cures these complaints, and cleanses them out of the system. Use it faithfully and you bring to society a healthier and far more acceptable member. Democrat, Baltimore, Md.

The following is the reply of the President to the resolution of the Senate, asking for information concerning correspondence which may have passed between this government and Spain, relative to the purchase of Cuba:  
To the Senate of the United States:  
I transmit herewith a report from the Secretary of State in answer to a resolution of the Senate of the 18th inst., requesting the President, if not incompatible with the public interest, to communicate to the Senate any and all correspondence between the Government of the United States and the Government of her Catholic Majesty relating to any proposition for the purchase of the island of Cuba, which correspondence has not been furnished to either House of Congress. From this it appears that no such correspondence has taken place which has not already been communicated to Congress. In my late annual message I stated in reference to the purchase of Cuba, that the "publicity which has been given to our former negotiations on this subject, and the large appropriations which may be required to effect the purchase, render it expedient, before making another attempt to renew the negotiation, that I should lay the whole subject before Congress." I still entertain the same opinion, deeming it highly important, if not indispensable to the success of any negotiation which I might institute for the purpose, that the measure should receive the previous sanction of Congress.

JAMES BUCHANAN.  
Washington, Jan. 21, 1856.  
Legislative Postage.  
An investigation is to be held at Harrisburg into the postage accounts of the members of the last Legislature. From the official journals it appears that the members of the House sent letters as follows:  
January—letters sent \$334.31  
February, " " 555.26  
March, " " 55,917  
April, twenty-one days  
And the Senators as follows:  
January—letters sent \$130.02  
February, " " 252.44  
March, " " 263.80  
April, twenty-one days 372.46  
These need no explanation.—It certainly looks strange that our Legislators had such a heavy correspondence during these twenty-one days in April. The nominal postage, but in reality stamps obtained, is over three thousand dollars more in April than in any preceding month. Can it be possible that members were providing themselves with a stock of stamps for home consumption at the public expense? It looks amazingly like it. When they increased their pay to \$700, the public thought they placed rather a high estimate upon their valuable services, but they had no idea that they were securing "little pickings" like this? If an abuse in the postage accounts existed last winter, it is quite natural that the present members should follow suit. Such abuse never correct themselves, and should be exposed. It is to be hoped that the postage accounts in both Houses will receive a thorough examination from the respective committees which have been appointed for the purpose. Let us know who these voluminous letter writers are.—Pitts Post.

One hundred and three persons were killed by railroad accidents, in the United States, last year, and two hundred and twenty-nine injured.

In compliance with the request of the Rev. Mr. Montgomery, we give the following correspondence a place in our columns. Although we are opposed to theological discussions, because we believe that so far from fostering the true spirit of Christian charity, they tend to foster the narrow and selfish feelings of Bigotry and Intolerance; yet we feel it but right to say that in this case our columns are open to a reply or explanation from Mr. Williams to Mr. Montgomery if he desires it. At the same time we wish it distinctly understood, that we entertain no intention of allowing any portion of our columns to be used hereafter, for the purpose of discussing disputed points in theology. Our paper is neutral in religion, and we are willing that every one shall work out his own salvation in the manner that his conscience tells him is right.  
Ebensburg, Dec. 25, 1858.

REV. DAVID WILLIAMS—Dear Sir:—My apology for intruding myself upon your attention is found in the extraordinary position you have assumed.

You came into our neighborhood not as a Minister of Peace, but to make war on other Christian denominations. You not only proclaimed your peculiar views of Baptism, but in a proselyting spirit perverted that way, unsettling the minds of some persons. But this was not sufficient. In a succession of challenges, you dared contradiction or controversy. Now, sir, I wish to say to you that I will procure the best church in this place, as also a Methodist Minister, to meet you in public debate—provided you will come here and affirm what you did in preaching—and then the public mind can judge as to the correctness of our faith and practice.

I will consult your convenience as to time. Hoping to hear from you, I remain Most respectfully,  
M. J. MONTGOMERY,  
Pastor of M. E. Church, Ebensburg.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 28, 1858.  
REV. M. J. MONTGOMERY—Dear Sir:—Your letter of the 23d inst. is to hand. You give as an apology for addressing me, the "extraordinary position" which I assumed during a late visit in Cambria county. Is my position extraordinary? There are more than one million in these United States occupying the same position! You say that I "came into your neighborhood not as a Minister of Peace, but to make war." Can I with equal propriety say you may charge the same on the mission of the King Eternal—Luke xii: 49-50.

You say, "You proclaimed your peculiar views of Baptism," &c. Did you not do the same? If there is any credit due to any person for commencing this discussion, you alone must have it.

You say that I "unsettled the minds of some persons." Sir, you tried to unsettle persons in the truth, and settled them in the errors of Methodism. But Bro. Thomas and myself aimed at settling them in the truth.—Here again you are wide of the mark.—I dared contradiction and controversy? I stand by my position firm as a rock. It is this—"You cannot find Infant Baptism in the Bible; and neither sprinkling or pouring is the Christian baptism."

You invite me to a discussion of our doctrinal differences—do you mean all the points upon which we differ? Again, you speak of the "Public mind as judge of the correctness of our faith and practice." Do you want this as one proposition—"The faith and practice of the Methodists are correct." Will you take the affirmative and give me the negative? Why do you wish Ebensburg to be the place, rather than where you began it?—I shall wait your reply.  
Yours, Truly,  
DAVID WILLIAMS.

EBENSBURG, Jan. 1, 1859.  
REV. DAVID WILLIAMS—Dear Sir:—Yours of the 28th ult., in which you justify your course here by an appeal to the Gospel, is before me. If you have no weapon more powerful than *Immersion* with which to carry on your war, I fear you will not be able to keep your supposed enemy at bay, much less conquer him. You charge me with commencing the discussion. I flatly deny the charge, and challenge the proof. Infant Baptism is not only what you state it to be—"a part and pillar of Romanism"—but also a part of Protestantism and Methodism. Therefore, it should not produce an earthquake in the Baptist church if we treat it with other subjects. Sir, if this is beginning a controversy, you begin one almost every sermon. You challenged contradiction and controversy—was not that beginning it? You speak of the "errors of Methodism." On the doctrines of our church we stand invulnerable, especially when the Baptist church is the assailant. You seem to be anxious to extend beyond Baptism—this I did not intend by the remark you refer to; but, if you wish it, I have no objection, provided the propositions be in accordance with the doctrines of our church, for your faith differs from it. You ask why I prefer Ebensburg to the place where it began. Would a church that would not seat more than sixty persons be suitable? Here we have a suitable house and accommodations.

My letter is already long enough, so I now come to the business before us, and state the following propositions:  
1. The Scriptures authorize the practice of Infant Baptism. We affirm.  
2. Immersion is the only Baptism taught in the Christian Scriptures and practised by the Apostles. We affirm.  
As you wish to expose the errors of Methodism, I will state the following:  
3. Do the Scriptures teach the impossibility of final apostasy. You affirm, and we deny.  
I also propose—  
1. That the debate commence on February 15th, at ten o'clock, A. M.  
2. That we spend two days on the first, and also on the second, proposition; one day will answer for the third.  
3. That the opening addresses on each proposition be one hour, and that the succeeding speeches shall not exceed thirty minutes each.  
4. That each session shall last two hours.  
5. There shall be a morning and an evening session each day.  
6. That each debater select one moderator, who shall choose a President.

I shall wait a reply.  
Yours,  
M. J. MONTGOMERY.  
EBENSBURG, Jan. 18, 1859.  
REV. DAVID WILLIAMS—Dear Sir:—Hav-

ing received your letter of Dec 28th, I promptly responded January 1st. I hoped to have heard from you long since, but no reply has yet come to hand. Being rather impatient to have all preliminaries completed for the proposed debate in this place, I therefore drop you these lines to remind you that the time is hastening on; and therefore, I request you to reply by return mail, and accept the propositions, &c. I submitted, adding others if you think proper, (according to the plan proposed,) or, in failing to reply, I shall take it for granted that you have concluded that

"—He who runs away,  
May live to fight another day."  
I remain,  
Yours,  
M. J. MONTGOMERY.  
[P. S.—To my second and third letters, Mr. Williams has made no reply, and I am forced to interpret his silence as giving up the ground on which he stood so firm. When opportunity will serve, I may notice this matter again.]  
January 26, 1859. M. J. M.]

Pennsylvania Agricultural Society.  
The annual meeting of this Society took place at Harrisburg, on Tuesday, the 18th of January, 1859; David Taggart, President; A. B. Hamilton Secretary.—The Treasurer, G. H. Bucher, read his report, showing a balance in the Treasury of \$2,296 54.  
The annual election was held between 2 and 5 o'clock, P. M., and the following declared to be elected officers for 1859:  
President.—David Taggart, of Northumberland.  
Vice Presidents.—1st d's rict, George W. Woodward; 2d, A. T. Newbold; 3d, Charles K. Engle; 4th, Joseph Yeager; 5th, Thos. P. Knox; 6th, Chas. Kelly; 7th, Adrian Cornell; 8th, Geo. McKean; 9th, John Strohm; 10th, John P. Rutherford; 11th, Amos E. Knapp; 12th, E. W. Sturdevant; 13th, Henry D. Maxwell; 14th, Wm. Jassup; 15th, H. N. M'Arthur; 16th, Jacob S. Haldeman; 17th, Wm. Heysler; 18th, Elias Baker; 19th, John M'Farland; 20th, Joshua Wright; 21st, John Murdoch, jr.; 22d, Jno. Young; 23d, Thomas J. Power; 24th, Henry Stuber; 25th, James Miles.

Additional members of the Executive Committee.—Frederick Watts, James Gowen, Wm. A. Stokes, Simon Cameron, Jacob Mish.  
Corresponding Secretary.—A. Boyd Hamilton.  
Chemist and Geologist.—Prof. S. S. Haldeman.  
Librarian.—Henry Gilbert.  
On motion of Mr. Murdoch, of Allegheny, a committee consisting of Mr. Taggart, J. S. Haldeman, A. E. Knapp, and T. P. Knox, were appointed to fix a location for the next State exhibition.  
The following resolution was adopted: That this Society appropriate to the Farmers' High School the one half of all funds arising from life memberships obtained during the term of one year from the date hereof, and that the Treasurer be and is hereby authorized to pay the same over to the Treasurer of the Farmers' High School of Pennsylvania.—Harrisburgh Telegraph.

From Utah.  
Brigham Young Controversy.—The San Francisco Bulletin has Utah dates to November 29.  
Says the Bulletin correspondent:—"Three unsuccessful attempts were recently made by Marshal Dostoev and his deputies to serve a subpoena upon Brigham Young, requiring his attendance before the court as a witness. The first time the Marshal went to the house, he was told that Brigham was not at home; but the second and third times, the gates in the high stone wall which surrounds Brigham's house were shut in his face, and he was positively denied admittance, although he stated his business and demanded admittance in the name of the United States: It will now be necessary for the court to issue an attachment requiring the Marshal to take Brigham's body, and compel his attendance before the court; and if he still refuses to allow the Marshal to approach him, it will become necessary to call upon the army for assistance."

Arrival of the Overland Mail.  
St. Louis, January 20.—The overland mail, with dates to the 27th ult., has arrived, bringing two passengers.  
The President's message reached San Francisco at three o'clock on the morning of the 26th ult., being nineteen days and twelve hours from St. Louis. The message hardly meets expectation, especially on the subject of the Pacific Railroad.  
The holidays were observed with extraordinary unanimity.  
Dates from Victoria to December 18th were received:  
There was great suffering at Frazer river from the cold.  
The steamer Enterprise, which left Fort Hope for Langley on the 9th, with 125 passengers, was frozen in on the way down. There being no provisions, the passengers attempted to go to Langley overland. The snow falling they lost their way, and after three days of incredible suffering, during which five or six were frozen to death, the weather moderated, and the steamer got loose from the ice, and took the survivors to Langley.  
A petition is being circulated at Victoria for the removal of Gov. Douglas.  
Mining has almost ceased.  
The Frazer river business is stagnant. Considerable rain had fallen.

Postage.  
The post-office committee of the United States Senate, it is stated, have determined to report favorably on the bill of Senator Hunter for a reform in the postage laws. This bill proposes to abolish the franking privilege of all printed matter weighing over three ounces—except the President's annual message and accompanying documents, the annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury and the Patent Office, and the Congressional Globe; to increase the rates of inland postage from three to five cents upon letters conveyed [inland] less than three thousand miles; to leave the postage to and from the Pacific side at ten cents, as at present, and to charge hereafter twenty cents, on foreign letters to and from points over 2,500 miles distant.

The people of Arizona Territory have put into operation a judicial system of their own, to continue in force until one shall by authority of the United States be established.

The gross earnings of the Pacific road for the year are about \$1,500,000, of which, after the payment of expenses and interest, twelve per cent, dividends have been declared. A reserve of two per cent, has been deposited in the Trust Company of New York, and a surplus of three per cent, remains in the treasury. The construction accounts for the year are about \$1,000,000, according to resolution of the board adopted some time since, become closed.

The Committee, appointed on plans for a monument to be erected at Harrisburg to the memory of the Soldiers of this State who fell in the war with Mexico, have decided Wright's design, and adopted one of the figures of James C. Balteson, of Connecticut, conditional upon the Legislature appropriating \$24,000 additional for its construction. The Patriot and Union thus describe it:—"The main column is made to represent the trunk of the Mexican palm tree, and its capital its coronal of leaves. The frieze between the leaves of the capital are filled up with the flowering cactus. Four palm-trees terminate the buttresses, which project alternately from the faces of an octagonal base, and support an equal number of allegorical statues, representing respectively—War and History, Peace and Piety. War assumes its stern posture, and is in the act of returning his sword to its scabbard, while in repose he relates his adventures to History, who, in listening attitude, holds the stylus and tablet upon which she is about to inscribe the record. The corresponding statues, Peace and Piety, are draped female figures, in the positions, and characterized by appropriate accessories. Peace is accompanied by her sister, Liberty. War becomes their guardian and protector, with History for his appropriate and necessary attendant.—The arms Pennsylvania are sculptured in also lie upon the plinth of the main column, bearing the motto—"Virtue, Liberty and Independence." A colossal statue of Victory crowns the monument. Standing upon a three-quarter globe, she holds in her right hand a wreath of laurel; with her left she grasps the folds of our national flag, which she guards as the symbol of freedom and the guardian of victory. The main die, together with its cornice and base, are octagonal—the different facades being reserved for descriptions.  
Between the statues of War and History upon the base of the main pedestal, appears the dedicatory inscription:  
The State of Pennsylvania,  
to her brave sons  
who lost their lives  
in the  
War with Mexico.  
Upon the facade of the plinth will appear in raised letters, the names of the different engagements. The monument is designed to be thirty feet square at the base, and seventy-five feet high. The material to be used is quality Italian marble, as per specifications. Price \$30,000.

Public Debt.  
The N. Y. Herald has a chapter on public debts, which sets down the aggregate debt of the principle European States at 10,000,000,000. The following are the four largest items:  
Great Britain, \$8,870,525,000  
France, 1,606,395,000  
Russia, 1,043,417,000  
Austria, 1,208,420,000  
The public debt of the United States is \$64,910,777, and the aggregate public debt of all the States foot up \$239,399,858. The debts of cities, towns, and villages are estimated at \$100,000,000. Total public debt, all kinds in the United States \$404,419,635.  
The public debts of the South American States, foot up \$308,796,015.  
Cuba and the west.—To show the commercial value of Cuban annexation to the west one single fact will suffice. The island consumes half a million barrels of sugar a year, at a cost of eighteen dollars a barrel. Not ten thousand barrels go from the States there being a duty of ten dollars a barrel. American flour. The annexation of the island to the United States would reduce the price of flour to six or seven dollars a barrel when we have every reason to believe that Cubans would purchase a million of barrels for their use a year. For this single item they would annually pay our agriculture six or seven millions of dollars. In commodities such as meat, butter, lard, oil and whiskey, their trade would be equally large. What an impetus such a trade would give to our commerce and agriculture! Pittsburg Post.