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London, Feb. 20. The Car's last proposals are rejected, and negotiations have been broken off. The Russian Ministers have left London and Paris.

It is said the Emperor, who is fully aware of the position he is placed in, will endeavor to avoid a general declaration of war, if he can only preserve his honor and his rights.

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WAR—POSITIVE FACTS.—Several of the Car's steamers are taken up by gunboats at the mouth of the Danube.

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RUSSIA BY THE BALTIC.—Intelligence from the best of war indicates that important operations are at hand there. But the news of the most importance is the open preparations for war made by England and France.

One-half of the British Revenue coast guard force are ordered to be drafted into the navy. This gives 2,800 well trained seamen.

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Paris Patrie confirms the statement that Omar Pacha's movements have cut off communication between the Russian army.

Officers are given to the French Atlantic squadron to proceed to London, it is supposed to take troops on board.

The Russian fleet it is understood is to be concentrated at Kaleska. Private letters say the return of the allied fleets was in consequence of severity of provisions at Sinope, but this is doubtful.

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The territory of Nebraska contains 136,700 square miles, and would make seventeen States as large as Massachusetts.

Dean Swift proposed to tax female beauty, and leave every lady to rate her own charms. He said the tax would be cheerfully paid, and very productive.

The man who beats the drum to the "march of time," is now learning to play the "horn of plenty." The poor fellow recently lost his sight, and is now led by the dog whose bark is on the C.

Dr. Conn, of Oakland station, on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, was shot and mortally wounded, as he was entering his office on Friday last, by a man named Johnson. The assassin is in prison.

It is understood that orders came out for the Arabia, for the immediate return home of all, or nearly all, the British ships of war on this coast, in the West Indies, and the Pacific.

An extensive locomotive manufactory is to be built in Detroit, the coming season. The capital of the company is to be \$250,000; of this sum 100,000 is already subscribed.

It seems now to be generally admitted that the Nebraska bill will pass the Senate by a large majority. The only hope for the opponents of the bill is in the House.

The Geneva Gazette says that no less than sixteen articles of railroad cars were broken on the Central Road the week before last. They became constructed by cold, and snapped off like pipe-stems.

The Buffalo Commercial states that within two or three days past, rabid dogs have made their appearance in the streets of that city, and it is reported that in one case a boy was badly bitten by one of these animals.

The people in some countries are complete cannibals. In one of the South Sea Islands they are inhuman enough to eat the flesh of savages, and another, they delight in soups made from the joints of nightingales.

The Boston Post says: A young girl named Jesse Wilkes, died on Thursday at Albany, from an operation performed upon her by a man for a purpose that has grown too common in our country, that should be printed against and preached against occasionally, but about which little is said.

The New York Courier states, that during the last three months, nearly one thousand vessels have suffered damage at sea; and that during that time, the Wall Street Insurance Offices have sustained losses which exceed \$4,500,000.

The press is most properly coming down upon a popular book, pretended to have been written for a moral purpose, entitled "Hot Corn," by Solon Robinson. A more scurrilous book has never been published, not even excepting Uncle Tom's Cabin.

ERIC, PA. SATURDAY MORNING, FEB. 26, 1864.

Do not Fail to Read this Special Notice. In three months the present volume of the Eric Observer will close, and there is a large amount due upon our books.

We are indebted to Hon. JOHN L. DAWSON, of Pa. for a copy of his Speech on the Homestead bill. It is spoken of by the Washington papers, and by those who heard it, among whom our correspondent "Perry" was one of the fortunate, as a masterly production.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION.—We entirely agree with the views expressed in the Gazette in regard to our approaching municipal election. The present Mayor and Council, with one or two exceptions, should by all means be re-elected.

The Meadville Journal appears to be in an extremely bad humor because it fears some of the Whigs of Erie County may vote for Gov. BIGLER next fall, hence it proceeds to berate them soundly. It talks to them very much as a task master, or the driver of a gang of slaves, would to those under his control.

Whether the Whigs of Erie County are again going to sacrifice their political character on the shrine of what they now suppose to be their interests; and then, after this amiable fling, declare emphatically that, by their conduct hereafter they have "disgraced themselves" and "mortified their friends" in Crawford County.

The Galveston News, of the 31st ult., reports that the cholera is very fatal there among the recent German emigrants, and slaves, at Houston, Texas. It is said that the sickness is confined to those emigrants who are encamped in the suburbs of the town, and drink the bayou water.

CHANCE OF GETTING MARRIED.—Fanny Fern says she is ready to jump at the first offer of marriage, and presents her qualifications as follows: "I have very black eyes and hair, and am very pretty. I am as sensitive as the Mimosa, a spirit as an eagle, and as untamable as chain lightning. Can make a pudding or write a newspaper squib, cut a caper, and crowd more happiness or misery into ten minutes than any Fanny that was ever christened."

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The Democratic State Convention assembled at Harrisburg on the 8th of March, at which candidates for Governor, Judge of the Supreme Court, and Canal Commissioner, will be nominated.

In regard to the candidates for the two former offices, public opinion has unerringly pointed to, and demands the re-nomination of Gov. BIGLER and Judge BIGLER. So far as we can judge the unanimity of feeling among the masses of the people in favor of BIGLER is even stronger than when, at Reading three years ago, he received the unanimous nomination of his party, and afterwards was most triumphantly elected over one of the most adroit politicians in the opposition ranks.

Who his competitor will be in this canvass we know not; but whoever he may be, and we sincerely trust the whigs will bring out a man that will make the canvass interesting, we can confidently predict that, like Capt. Scott's, he will have to come down. We are aware that some of the opposition presses affect to foresee trouble in the Democratic ranks ere the canvass is ended.

They predicate this hope upon an occasional ripple of opposition to BIGLER which has manifested itself during the last few months. Let them lay no flattering notion of this kind to heart. The opposition to BIGLER will disappear like chaff before the wind ere the members of the State Convention reach their homes. From the very first inception of this opposition it has been "growing small by degrees and beautifully less," until we doubt whether it will show itself at all in the Convention. It has, in fact, become thoroughly ashamed, if not actually disgusted with itself. It was, in its first inception, to use the language of the Valley Spirit, the most insignificant and impotent political demonstration that was ever made in this State. There is not a man connected with the movement, which can command ordinary respect, much less active cooperation. It originated from a coalition of placemen, whose characters and qualifications were so well understood by the General and State Administrations, that they were repulsed, and properly too, without even the poor compliment of respectful consideration. It was natural that they should conceive the insane idea of distracting and defeating the party; but we must not forget, that an overweening vanity like this carries its own cure, and administers it very soon after the appearance of the disease. Politicians are especially subject to these unnatural eruptions; and we have been in the habit of regarding them as the best way in which political corruption can be discharged. It is laughable to see what degrees of importance they sometimes place upon their trifling machinations. The deduction is easy for them, that their discontent implies a general and prevailing inclination to revolt against partisan usages; but when the matter comes to a popular test, we invariably lose sight of them and their party schemes. It does not often occur that they can command enough of votes to make a decent figure in the returns; but it does frequently happen that before the grand explosion they sink unaided and suppliantly into the ranks. And it will be so in this case, for the popularity of Gov. Bigler and his administration cannot be disputed. Every objection which has been urged against him, can be traced to the motives and persons we have already depicted. There is a general concession of his ability, integrity and patriotism. His re-nomination is a fixed fact. How do those ambitious and itching gentlemen expect to compass his defeat? By the nomination of an independent Democratic candidate? We imagine that there is not a man in the party who is so consummate a fool as to count party political suicide by such a step. Or, by a regular bolting to a Whig nominee? Those who expect that, know but little of the temper and fidelity of the Pennsylvania Democracy.—They will stand firm to their usages and their nominations; and will rally around their tried and faithful servants with an inflexible devotion that will teach all these discontented spirits that they are just as unable to ruin as to rate. We hope that they may retreat in time, and save themselves from the disgrace of a discomfiture after so noisy a flourish of trumpets as they have made in the assault. They will, at least, save their own feelings by adopting that alternative. They will be entirely lost sight of, and be spared the infliction of the jeers and contumelious remarks which must attend their exertions after the campaign.

Our friend of the Conestogueno Courier wanted to know, in his number last week, why some of the Publishers in this city do not start a daily. We can answer for ourself. We do not desire to publish a daily merely for glory. Glory, we know, is some compensation, if it don't cost too much; but our experience in the newspaper business affords us proof that it does.—And we think we are not alone, for we notice that the daily paper started in Lancaster, a city with about double the population of Erie, has been suspended after a trial of a few months, with a dead loss to the publishers of about two thousand dollars. The glory of publishing a daily at that rate is too expensive. The Courier can consider us as its friend.

We think Graham's new paper "The Saturday Evening Mail," is the very best literary newspaper published in Philadelphia. Unlike most of the Philadelphia weeklies it has a mind and a will of its own. Whatever the Editor likes in Literature and Art, or in the Political World, he is not slow in letting his approval be known; and the same may be said in regard to that which he does not like. Another feature in the Mail we like, is the weekly selections from the leading articles of the English press. Such a department opens to the readers of the Mail a mine of thought and information. Success to the Mail, say we!

The Democratic Press in the North, who advocate Douglas' bill are, the most part of them, the sucklings of Government pay, or how very soothing to their conscientious scruples.—Anti-Slavery Telegraph.

Papers North and South found indulging in such flings as the above one, "the most part of them," conducted by those who have just got done being "sucklings of Government pay," and the Editor of the Telegraph is not an exception! The man who libelously and invariably imagines his neighbor is as venal. He sees his own vices and failings reflected in every body's face, and hence lays the flattering unction to his soul that he is the only pure man in the lot, whereas it is his own image, and not his neighbors, that he sees.

Some persons used the Buffalo Express for libel; damages claimed, \$10,000; judgment obtained, \$25.—Erie City Democrat.

Where the Express is unknown this verdict might be considered light; but here the mystery is how a jury of intelligent men could find that such a paper had damaged any one's character to the amount of 25 cents, even!

George M. Dallas, late Vice President of the United States, has been nominated by the citizens of the Fifth Ward, a candidate for Mayor of the consolidated city of Philadelphia.

Some one has discovered, say one of our exchanges, that *trecher*, when drunk, will bite until hoarse. We presume the Leech is not the only thing that bites when it is drunk—men do sometimes!

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