Miscellaneous, Foreign and Political News.

Governor Bigler.

The Democratic party of Pennsylvania never had a candidate who was more deserving of their energetic and enthusiastic support than the gentleman who is now their standard bearer in the coming contest. Personally there is no man in the Commonwealth who presents a stronger claim for popular suffrage than William Bigler. The same moral rectitude—the same republican principles that characterized the poor young man—the "widow's son"—struggling against the current of the world, unaided save by his own indomitable will—now form the leading features of the Statesman who fills the Gubernatorial chair of the State of Pennsylvania.

The Governor has not lost one of the sterling qualities that were possessed by the humble and adventurous youth—public life has only strengthened him in his virtues and given those virtues the advantages of experience. The elevation of such men to posts of honor, are beautiful tributes to the working of our republican system, which recognizes no station so elevated that it cannot be reached by the humblest individual, who need only possess intellectual and moral qualifications. Such a man as Bigler should not be sacrificed in the fever of a contest—should not be bargained off by a union of discordant interests to seek power at every sacrifice. He should not be tried by other men's failings or short comings, but on his own merits as a man and a public officer.—To establish any other issue would be unjust, and also unworthy of the honest and fair dealing people of Pennsylvania.

The young men of Pennsylvania—the sons of the hardy citizens who have justly been termed the "bone and sinew" of the Commonwealth—should constitute themselves the guardians of the fame of the "*Raftsman and Clearfield*," and should labor for his election with all the energy that determined and vigorous youth can command. We are aware that designing politicians encouraged by the representatives of secret organizations are publicly and secretly plotting for his defeat, but we have too much confidence in the mass of the people to fear their machinations. There can be no reason given why a Democrat should not support Governor Bigler this year, with the same zeal and earnestness that he did three years since

As a Governor he has shown himself to be an able and impartial officer, and as a Democrat he has carried out the professions of his party, in all the acts of his administration, during his term of office. We can understand why a Whig politician would seek his defeat, and why that Whig politician would attempt to array against him religious and sectional prejudices—his motives are easily divined—he *desires his place to be filled by a member of his own party!* But that a single Democrat should desert Bigler seems to us incomprehensible—such a course would give too much power to *cunning* on the one side, and exhibit too much *weakness* on the other.

Democrats are not disposed to pursue a course without some show of reason for it, and we are, therefore, unwilling to believe any statement that he will not receive the united support of the entire Democratic party of the Commonwealth. We ask that Gov. Bigler and Mr. Pollock be tried before the people on their own merits, and on the merits of the parties they represent, and in that event we need not say that we abide the result with the utmost confidence. The verdict in favor of Bigler and Democracy would be thousands—aye, tens of thousands!—*York Press.*

TERRIBLE CAUSALITY IN THE "BURNING CAVERN," WISCONSIN—NINE LIVES LOST—A letter in the Philadelphia *Ledger*, dated Mt. Vernon, Wisconsin June 23,' says:

A sad accident occurred near this village on Sunday, the 11th inst. A number of years ago, when this part of the country was a howling wilderness, a very rich gentleman had wandered here for the purpose of hunting foxes, &c. One day in one of his rambles he came to the foot of a high perpendicular rock (about 80 rods from where now stands the village of Mount Vernon) while he was exploring the crevices, &c, in search of fox holes, he found a large cavern which led straight into the bluff—he procured a torch and proceeded to explore it—he had not proceeded far before an explosion of the gases took place, which ended his life.

It has been visited since that time, but with no fatal consequences, (being careful to carry no fire, except in a glass lantern,) till last Sunday, when a number of persons being assembled at the house of Joel Britts, on a visit, they concluded to take a ride to the village, and to visit the "Mammoth Cave," which they did. They had taken the necessary precaution, with the exception of a pipe that remained in the mouth of the wife of Joel Britts'

So they all went in, twelve persons, comprising the following named, viz: Joel Britts and wife—Caroline Britts and her son Cyrus, two years of age—Joseph Britts, Edward Britts, David Smith and wife—Harriet Lycan, Louisa Lee, Jas. M'Nab and Rhoda Carlin, the two latter of this village. I was standing about forty rods from the place when I heard an immense explosion, after which I hastened to the spot, and what a heart-rending scene met my eye—it may be imagined, but not described. All of the before-named persons, except the three latter, were burned and bruised to death James M'Nab, Louisa Lee and Miss Carlin lay with their clothes burning and bodies mangled frightfully. They were placed under the care of the village physician, who thinks they will recover It is to be hoped this will be received as ample warning to all persons who wish to visit the "Burning Cavern"

NEBRASKA—From a private letter just received from Weston, Missouri, we take the following extract:

"We are all crazy here about Nebraska. There are four hundred men in town to-day from Platte county, ready to go to the new territory. I think I can safely say there are over ten thousand people already in this territory, exploring and making out claims, and in less than two months there will be double that number Some of them will be greatly disappointed, for timber land is very scarce, and we, the frontier men, are determined to have our quarter section. We have had three men out exploring, and they have united with about twenty others in founding a village on the Chicapa lands, lying at the mouth of a large creek. They left a dozen men to watch the claim, and come back to Weston this morning. To-day provisions were sent forward, and to-morrow some thirty start from here to form the settlement It is about fifeen miles from Fort Leavenworth, the Government station, and the prospective seat of government for the territory, for the present at least. I shall start to-morrow with the party above named.—We must protect our claim by force, build, houses, &c, for there is no law here but the rifle and the knife But I like the adventure, and I am in for it if I can get in"

FIENDISH AFFAIR IN CINCINNATI—We learn from Cincinnati, that on Monday evening a box was sent to the Marine Hospital, corner of Longworth and Western Row, and deposited in the room of the Steward of the Institution, J. H. Allison. About 10 o'clock Mr. Allison and his wife, being alone in the room, opened the box. When in the act of doing so, it exploded with tremendous force, mangling the bodies of both horribly. Mrs. Allison had both arms torn off, and her skull fractured. Mr Allison was dreadfully injured, and both died during the day.—The furniture, windows and the ceiling of the room were shattered to atoms. The indications are that the box contained a bomb-shell, about six inches in diameter. Mr. Allison made a statement before his death, which will probably lead to the detection of the guilty party. It is said that a fellow, named Conwell, committed a murder some time since, and Allison was acquainted with the facts; and it is supposed that Conwell desired to take the life of Allison. The description given of Conwell by Allison, and the description given by the boy who delivered the box, of the man from whom he received it, correspond.

A Sacrilegious Outrage.

From the Detroit Advertiser of yesterday.

We fail for language to express our own and the public feeling that prevailed in this city, yesterday upon a fiendish outrage, committed at the Scotch Presbyterian Church the night before.—During the night, just after the fire broke out at the Peninsular Hotel, the church was entered through one of the windows on the north side, by placing a scantling against the side of the building and breaking out a pane of glass next to the fastening on the inside, by which the window was raised and the ruffians entered. After they effected an entrance, nothing was to sacred for the work of their foul and desecrating hands. A large and elegantly furnished Bible, that cost over $50, presented by the ladies of the society, and another presented by a private citizen, were violated in the most sacrilegious manner, by being torn and mulitated from cover to cover, and beameared with oil. Nearly every Bible and Hymn book belonging to the pews were treated in the same manner and scattered over the floor.

The oil in the lamps and a two gallon can was poured over the pulpit, daubed on the walls over it, and scattered liberally on the carpets and cushions in the pews. Many of the cushions were torn up and left in the aisles. A large stick of wood, with spittoons, pails and chairs were piled up on the pulpit, and the clock dashed to the floor in front of it. Not satisfied with this, they broke open the Sabbath School Library and mutilated and destroyed about four hundred volumes of books, by throwing them in a pile on the floor and pouring oil upon them.

The church, as it was left by the hands of the spoilers, was visited yesterday by a large number of citizens, who, as they looked upon the horrible and disgusting scene, could not find language to express their indignation and mortification at such a transaction.

As yet, we have heard of no clue to any motive to justify such a piece of sacrilege.

From the appearance of the grass beneath the window, it is evident that the hand of more than one participated in the act. A more wanton outrage was never committed in this city, nor one that calls for more vigorous exertions in ferreting out its perpetrators.

We understand that some gentlemen of responsibility have authorized a reward of several hundred dollars for the detection of the guilty. We also heared that the Common Council were to hold an informal consultation yesterday afternoon, to authorize the Mayor to offer a reward in behalf of the city We trust this may be done, and that the reward will be sufficiently liberal to induce our police, and all others, to use every effort to ferret out and bring the guilty to justice.

THE DIFFERENT ROUTES—One can hardly imagine anything more futile or more absurd, than the controversies in progress as to the most feasible route for a railway to the Pacific. Of what consequence can it be, which is the best way to go, when there is no intention of going at all, during the life-time of the present generation A late number of the *Chickasaw Intelligencer* informs us on the the 15th inst., there arrived at Preston, Texas, from El Paso, the U. S Surveying party sent to explore the railway route through Texas along the thirty-second parallel of latitude. This party was commanded by Capt John Pope, of the Topographical Engineers, and left El Paso on the 20th of February, with an escort of twenty-five soldiers and a number of assisting men, striking for Preston in a direct line, with the exception of a deviation made in order to pass through the Guadalupe mountains These were found to be on the west of the Pecos river, instead of the east, as they are generally laid down on the maps. The party found a good shoal ford on the Pecos, near the mouth of Delaware creek, 400 miles above the deep and difficult place where the emigrants usually cross by means of rafts. They crossed the Llano Estacado, a distance of 125 miles, and found no vegetation except a kind of red grass, and at intervals of from ten to twenty-five miles another species of grass. After leaving this desert they struck the head waters of the Colorado, crossing Marcy's trail near the Double mountain Fork of the Brazos The collections of specimens in botany, geology, and natural history gathered by the survey are said to be quite extensive and interesting Timber abounds between Preston and the Colorado, and the surface of the country passed over was undulating and adapted for railroad purposes. All this may be interesting information, in the abstract, but considered in reference to the purpose for which it is communicated, it is of no importance whatever. There is no more probability that a railroad to the Pacific will be built on a southern route, than that the filibusters will throw a suspension bridge from the Dry Tortugas across to Havana.

MARSHAL ST ARNAUD—The Quebec *Observer* professess to have become acquainted with some details not generally known, in regard to Marshal St. Arnaud, the generalissimo of the Anglo French army in Turkey. It says:

His name was originally Leroy, but as a native of the town of St Arnaud, he appended the aristocratic "de St. Arnaud" to his name—of course only in order to be distinguished from other Leroys in the army At a later period he droped the original name altogether, and became St. Arnaud At the time, when still only Capt. Leroy, he was aid de-camp to Gen. Rulhieres in Algeria, and embezzled the funds of the regiment. He would have been cashiered and sentenced to long imprisonment but for the generosity of Rulhieres, who, appreciating the military talent and bravery of the young officer, hushed up the matter, and alowed him to restore the embezzled sum by *instlaments* When, in consequence of the coup d'etat on the 2d December, St. Arnaud became Minister of War, his first act was to put General Rulhieres on the half-pay list, since by his own experience he knew that the old General was no strict disiplinarian, and connived at the irregular conduct of his sabalterns. We call such facts by the name of huge ingratitude; but some future Rev. Mr. Abbott, illustrating the history of Napoleon III. may find that St. Arnaud's abnegation, by punishing Gen. Rulhieres for having saved the Minister's honor in former days, surpassing even the feats of Brutus and Manlius Torquatus, who sentenced their own sons to death for having broken the law.

A MOCK DUEL AND REAL TRAGEDY—A New Orleans correspondent of the Louisville *Democrat*, writing under date of June 10th, gives an account of a mock duel among some "sporting gentlemen," which ended in a real tragedy The principals in this affair exchanged shots, when one of them, who understood the fact that the pistols were not charged with balls, fell and proceeded to die in an awful manner His antagonist who was not in the secret, was much frightened, and being advised by some of the jokers to flee, took refuge in a swamp, where he lay until hunted out by a friend and informed of the joke in the case. He was enraged, and a short time after, meeting the gang that had been engaged in the fun at his expense, in a gambling house, he made attack on two of them with a heavy cane, and was shot and killed by one of the persons assailed. The correspondent of the Democrat says:

The name of the victim of this comedy and tragedy was Schlessinger. He was a native of England, only 26 years of age, of hadsome, athletic person, and his generel appearance such as to create a regret that he should follow such an unworthy profession as that of gambling, or come to such an unworthy end.

☞ The story going the rounds of the press in regard to the youngest son of the celebrated Patrick Henry having recently died in a poor-house, is pronounced by the Washington *Star* to be incorrect. The person alluded to died some three years ago The *Star* says "he died poor, but his poverty was an honorable poverty, and his last days were cheered by the kind attentions of attached friends and relatives. Inheriting an ample estate, it soon passed from him, for his heart was too big, and his hand too open, for the selfish ways of this selfish world."

The War—Private Letter from an American Soldier.

Paris, Thursday, June 15, 1854.

I have just been shown a private letter from Col. Bowles of the United States Army, dated at Constantinople, and directed to a gentleman in this city, which contains a very clear and impartial resume of the situation of the belligerent forces at this moment. Col. B. has received a command in the Turkish service, and was on his way to take his place in the army. The French and English journals exaggerate so notoriously in regard to the situation of affairs, in order to keep up home enthusiasm in favor of the war, that a little evidence coming from an intelligent and an impartial source is of great value.

Col. Bowles was present at Athens when the French and English landed and took possession of the Grecian capital. He represents the general appearance and bearing of the soldiers on that occasion, as the finest he ever saw. He thinks that the submission of the Greeks is one of compulsion entirely, and says that they curse the French and English to a man. The journals of Paris and London, on the contrary, represent King Otho and a great portion of his subjects, as overjoyed at the allied interven . n Col. Bowles represents the conduct of the French and English commanders on the occasion, as high-handed and arbitrary in the extreme. Orders were given to the war vessels in port, that if the queen attempted to escape by sea, as was anticipated, she should be seized and held as a prisoner, until the king signed the terms imposed upon him

He says that up to the present time the majority of successes have been in favor of the Russians; that the reports published by the Turks of the constant immense losses on the part of the Russians, and the insignificant losses on their own part, are gross exaggerations, scarcely surpassed by the Russian bulletins themselves. He represents the English and French armies as being the most perfect in their equipments, exercises and military bearing of any armies perhaps of modern times; while the Turks, on the contrary, are sadly wanting in all these attributes

There are 250,000 Russians on Turkish soil, while opposed to them there are at present but 60,000 English and French, and 120,000 Turks. This force united and strongly intrenched, can act on the defensive; but as for acting on the offensive, he considers it impossible They may defend the passage of the Balkans, but they cannot drive the Russians out of the Principalities

The army of Asia he represents in a more deplorable condition still, and states that it occupies a position so critical that if not relieved soon by a reinforcement of good soldiers, it will inevitably be cut to pieces Of Sevastapol he says that, aided by the Russian fleet, it will be a port so difficult to take, that the combined fleets are afraid to attack it.

The prospect seems gloomy enough, but when it is recollected that Turkey has really accomplished nothing substantial thus far as the result of a battle, while on the contrary Russia has constantly advanced, there seems some ground for the conclusions at which Col Bowles arrives—*N Y. Tribune*

The Danger of Marrying an Actress.

Most newspaper readers will recollect the marriage of Fletcher Woodward, of Syracuse, with Susan Denin, an actress of some celebrity

Sometime ago Susan and her husband and her sister Kate, (who marrisd an actor named Fox) went to California on a professional engagement It seems she there became intimate with a man named Bingham The following from the *Syracuse Standard*, tells the rest of the story:

We learn that there was no actual separation between Mr Woodward and Susan previous to leaving San Francisco, but that Woodward was displeased at the intimacy existing between his wife and Bingham, and desired to bring her home to her friends Kate did not leave San Francisco, but remained in California On the passage, considerable feeling was evinced by the passengers who had become familiar with the circumstances. They endeavored to persuade Woodward to shoot Bingham, but he refused, and the passengers would have killed him themselves, but the Captain interposed, and agreed to deliver him up to our Consul on the arrival at Panama The Consul had no jurisdiction in the case, and was obliged to set him free Revolvers were exhibited by Bingham during the whole time, and Mr. Van Alstyne states that Susan was also armed with a revolver. At Aspinwall, while the passengers were on their way from the cars to the hotel, about 10 o'clock in the evening, Bingham was shot in the back, the ball entering just above the hip He immediately fell, and was taken to the hotel, where a physician examined the wounds, and declared there was no hope of his recovery It is not known who shot him, and various surmises are afloat.

Bingham is represented to be a married man, with a wife and two children somewhere in the Atlantic States, and another wife in California, whose father heard of his former marriage and obliged him to leave His name was probably assumed

Susan refused to come on to New York, and Woodward was also desirous of remaining, but the passengers took him by force and put him aboard the steamer

DREADFUL ACCIDENT AND LOSS OF LIFE.—At the recent celebration at the opening of the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad to Seymour, an appalling accident occurred. The train from Aurora, when nearing the Seymour depot, was firing salutes from a cannon, which was attached to the last platform on the train. A small furnace, used for heating the rod with which the cannon was set off, lay close by the breech of the gun, and the wind, it is supposed, blew a spark of this fire into the chest where about a keg or two of powder had been emptied An instantaneous explosion was the consequence, and six men, who were on the car at the time, were blown into the air and horribly mangled Recent intelligence from Aurora announce the deaths of three of the sufferers. Their names are R. P. Squib, John Bodley, and Henry Doolan. Doolan was deranged for several hours previous to his death

A MOST HORRIBLE MURDER.—A brutal murder was committed near Quebec, Canada, last week, of which the *Chronicle* says:—

"The unfortunate victim was a young girl aged 11, named Camre Lennay. It appeared upon examination of her body that she had been first violated, then killed by a blow upon the head, and afterwards barbarously ripped open. Though suspicion rests upon an individual resident in the neighborhood of the outrage, we are sorry to here that as yet no reliable clue has been obtained to the person who committed it. The verdict of the jury was wilful murder against some person or persons unknown."

WONDERFUL.—A singular circumstance, says the Springfield *Republic*, of Wednesday, 21st ult. took place on the Mad River road yesterday. A couple of Irishmen had walked out about two miles in the direction of Urbana, when the sudden whistle of the locomotive announced the coming of the four o'clock train for Dayton All the efforts of one of the two were unavailing to induce his friend to leave the scene of danger Another moment and the entire train, consisting of four or five heavily laden cars, beside the engine, had passed over him. His body came down last evening, and what is extremely strange, so little was he injured that he is able to walk this morning without any other assistance than a cane. A truly marvelous incident

MURDER.—A woman named Maagaret Ellis, a prostitute, was murdered yesterday about noon by a fellow named Fred. Mitchell, under the following circumstances It appears that Margaret, with a woman named Anna Jamison, were living on Clinton street, some distance out, and were visited yesterday by Mitchell and a companion named James Herd. Mitchell got into a dispute about a ring, and after words had passed, he fell upon her and beat her in so merciless a manner as to cause her almost instant death. The villian was arrested last evening by Policemen Germain and Winchell, of Capt. Davenport's station. He is now in jail.—*Buffalo Com.*

Erie Weekly Observer.

ERIE, PA.

SATURDAY MORNING, JULY 8, 1854.

DEMOCRATIC STATE NOMINATIONS.

FOR GOVERNOR:

WILLIAM BIGLER,
Of Clearfield County.

JUDGE OF SUPREME COURT:

JEREMIAH S. BLACK,
Of Somerset County.

FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER:

HENRY S. MOTT,
Of Pike County.

☞ We have but a few words of reply to the Editor of the Girard *Express*. When an Editor leaves the political arena to become a sectarian bigot, and assails those who differ with him in regard to religious belief with the language of the fish market, or, more properly, the slang of the "Know Nothings" of the Five Points in New York, he should not complain if he receives a severe rebuff from those who believe that this Government was formed and instituted to protect and succor the oppressed of *all* denominations—Catholic, Pagan, Protestant and Jew. But this aside! We said in our article that there is no connection between the Democratic party and the Catholic Church. This our "Know Nothing" friend denies, and says he "can show" there is such a connection "by the elections of the last ten years" This is mere assertion—an assertion the Editor don't attempt to prove—don't believe himself, and don't expect any body else to believe This is evident, for in the very next sentence he tells us "the two great political parties in this country *both* sprung from Protestantism;" also, that "our government is purely Protestant," &c, &c Now, both of these positions cannot be correct, for the Democratic party has administered this government, in the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial departments, with but an interruption of twelve years, ever since the adoption of the Constitution But we deny that "our Government is purely Protestant."—We deny that it is purely or remotely Catholic! We deny "that its religion is the Protestant religion," or the Catholic religion, or the Jewish religion, or any other sectarian religion. This Government knows no religion as such; those who constitute the Government, the people, are composed of all sects, and are free to worship how and where they please. This is not mere assertion—it is the language of the Constitution itself—that very "magna charta" our "Know Nothing" cotemporary asserts "has made this country what it is." The language of that instrument is plain "Congress shall *make* no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the *free* exercise thereof." It asserts in another place that "no *religious test* shall *ever* be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States." The position of the *Express* would, if carried into practice, totally abrogate these *wise* provisions of the "magna charta" of our liberties.

Another assertion made by the *Express*, that "it is well know to every one that had Catholic influence been brought to bear, in the formation of our Government, the Bible would have been excluded every where, and that sacred magna charta, whose influence has made this country, what it already is, would have been set aside." Now, this wholesale charge is "not well known," except to the imagination of its author; on the contrary facts and history, which ought to be "well known" to an Editor, contradict it. Maryland, settled as it is "well known" by Catholics, was the first Colony that proclaimed "religious toleration;" and this, too, at the very time the New England colonies, settled by Puritans, were scourging Quakers and banishing Baptists. But we need not waste words upon this matter—"it is well known," for it is a matter of history, that the Catholic and the Protestant stood side by side in signing our Declaration of Independence—they fought side by side from Bunker Hill to Yorktown—their blood has flowed and mingled upon every battle-field, from Quebec, where that *Irishman*, MONTGOMERY, fell, to the heights of Cero Gordo, where that Irish Catholic, SHIELDS, was carried from the field only where the flag of his *adopted* country floated from the enemies works!

The *Express* is also very much exercised at the number of immigrants that seek our shores. Did "the well known fact" ever enter this Editor's cranium that every full grown man who comes from Europe to this country subtracts just so much physical wealth from the country of his birth and adds it to the country of his adoption? If we import a Horse, no man will dispute that the country is one horse better off, because its labor is available; its labor has been taken from Europe and transferred to America. Now who will say that the same principle does not hold good in regard to man. It has cost us nothing to raise those who seek our shores—it has cost us nothing to import them—they come among us full grown human machines, ready to build railroads, dig canals, clear up our forests, and add wealth and power to the country. That our ancestors looked upon it in this light we have no doubt, for in setting forth their grievances in the Declaration of Indepedence they say the King:

"Has endeavored to *prevent the population of these States*; for that purpose *obstructing the laws for the naturalization of foreigners*, refusing to pass others to *encourage their migration hither*, and raising the new appropriation of lands."

Wherein does the doctrine of the *Express* differ from the acts of King George complained of by the signers of the Declaration of Independence? "We pause for a reply."

THE NEW TERRITORIES.—The Pennsylvania *Inquirer*, a leading whig organ, in speaking of the Emigrant Societies, for populating Kansas, predicts that their movements will "soon guarantee *the freedom of the two new Territories.*"—Where then will be the platform of the now howling Abolition-whig party? Echo answers where?

☞ The *Gazette* publishes an anti-Nebraska address, and adds that "it is signed without distinction of State or Party." The *Gazette* is getting funny! as it is a fact that but two or three Democrats, Messrs MACE, of Ia. and FENTON, of N. Y., had any thing to do with it!

☞ A dispatch to the New York *Express* states that the Senate on Saturday rejected the Canadian Reciprocity Bill. The chief reasons against its ratification, the dispatch says, were the alleged inequalities of benefits conferred and received, and an infringement of the revenue laws, which should originate in the House of Representatives.

Garrett Smith and the Acquisition of Cuba.

The papers, in announcing the resignation of Hon. GERRETT SMITH, the well-known abolition member from New York, are prolific in their remarks of astonishment at the event, and also that he should have declared himself favorable to the acquisition of Cuba and Mexico by this Government. If we are correctly informed, Mr S. long since declared himself favorable to the acquisition of Cuba. And he based his advocacy of the measure upon the philanthropic grounds that by bringing that Island into the Union, as a State, *slavery* would sooner be abolished than it would under the Spanish rule. People generally may not regard this position as sound, yet we venture to assert that few have examined the question as minutely, as throughly, as philanthropically, and, may we add, as *honestly*, as GERRETT SMITH; for however much we may differ with that gentleman, we have never doubted his *honesty!* Of course we do not know the exact reasons which have operated upon Mr. S's mind to lead him to the conclusions we refer to, but it appears to us there are many, very many, good and sufficient reasons why every *true* friend of the *slave* should seek to wrest, by purchase if possible, by *force* if necessary, that island from the Spanish yoke. The first and principal reason we take to be, that if Cuba belonged to the United States, the slave trade would be entirely stopped, a result not possible so long as the island is owned by Spain. The Cuban slave trade (we quote from a writer in the Boston *Olive Branch*, who has visited Cuba,) has very extensive ramifications, and receives direct support from the only nation which has *pretended* to be anxious for its suppression—Great Britain. The *modus operandi* of getting up a slave expedition is something like the system of putting forth a lottery. The capital stock is fixed at say $200,000, to purchase and fit out a good vessel, and to buy the cargo. Shares are issued at one hundred or more dollars each, and are purchased by the highest as well as the middling classes of the whole island A small trader, a clerk in a dry goods shop, or a mechanic, who has been able to accumulate a little surplus, is willing to risk it in a venture that may bring him a return of five or six times his outlay—while many capitalists seek these shares as an irregular but sure and profitable investment. It is also a favorite species of gambling with government officers of all grades, from the Captain-General down to the village alcalde; and even the Queen of Spain, and the Queen mother, are known to have acquired vast fortunes by it. Then if the cargo is safely landed, the company must pay some two or three doubloons for each negro to the Captain-General of Cuba, who it is well understood, divides with the Queen and her favorite officers. Now for the British phase in the trade. Some years ago, by treaty with England, Spain agreed to abolish the slave trade and to treat it as piracy. A commission of British and Spanish officers was instituted, called the Mixed Commission, to sit at Havana. This commission, if a slaver is caught and brought into a Cuban port, after the investigation, decrees the cargo forfeited, and the slaves free—and the way they are made free is this:—the negroes are called *emancipados*, and are apprenticed to whoever chooses to apply for them, for a term of years, on the estates or in the cities, to pay expenses of capture, &c. The name of the *emancipado* is duly registered, the date at which he was apprenticed, duly noted, as well as the day on which his apprenticeship is to cease. We forget the number of years the *emancipado* must serve, but we believe it is a little less than the average life of an *African* slave on the island. If he should live until the expiration of his term, it is very easy to evade the law which releases him. The excuse sometimes is that he has absconded, or it is not at all difficult to get up a certificate of his death The slave, of course, speaking but little or no Spanish, is easily kept in ignorance of his rights and as no one is *particularly* interested in "keeping the run of him," ten to one that his apprenticeship only ends when God steps in and dissolves the compact. As proof of this statement of the British phase of Cuban slavery, we have only to adduce the fact known to all our readers, that England a few years since demanded the liberation of all the *emancipados*, whose terms had expired, supposed to be at least *twenty thousand* Of course they were all liberated—*when found*

Our readers will perceive that the foregoing are mighty reasons why the really philanthropic among all parties and sects should look upon the acquisition of Cuba with favor But there are others. The theory of slavery in Cuba, (says the same writer above) is much more liberal and generous than that of the United States—and philanthropists would hope under our government not only to see it carried out in practice, but introduced into our Southern system In Cuba the law gives the slave the right at any time to change his master, or to purchase his freedom If the parent of a slave child pays twenty-five dollars to the master on the day of its christening, the child is free. If the master neglects the christening until the slave becomes of age, the rule holds good, and he must part with him for twenty-five dollars.

The average price of an able-bodied slave is about five hundred dollars. As with us, a slave is sometimes charged by his master so much per month for his time, and all he accumulates over that sum is his own. If he get only one hundred dollars, he can demand of his master the price at which he shall have his freedom If the master refuses to set a sum, or is exhorbitant in his demand, the slave cites him before the *Sindico* which officer fixes the price. As the *Sindico* profits some by the sale of a slave, he generally, unless operated upon by the master financially, names a very moderate price, less than the real value, so that an appeal to this officer is not of so frequent occurrence as one would suppose, and consequently the master and slave fix the price between them. If the slave is valued at $500, and pays his master $100, he is then said to be "*cuartado*" for $400, and has the right to select his master any where within the district, paying eighty per cent of his earnings to his old master, keeping one-fifth for such necessaries as he may need, and puts a little in the sinking fund for the balance due for his freedom If he pays $200 on his price, his old master collects sixty per cent of his earnings, or if he pays $300 forty per cent, leaving the rest for the emancipation fund.

A slave has also the right, if he considers himself cruelly treated or overworked, to apply to the *Sindico*, who on proof, may give him a certificate of his value, with three days' time to find a new master who will treat him better, and who is willing to pay the certified value. The theory is that as the *Sindico* will fix a low price, the master, for fear of losing his slave, will be led to treat him well; and on the other side, that the slave will be more industrious and tractable, from the consideration that if he is not so, he will be considered nearly worthless, and consequently unable to change masters, as a cheap negro is accounted rather poor property on a sugar plantation or anywhere else. We would not have our readers suppose that these humane provisions in the Cuban slave code, are always carried out—we have stated them to be theory in some measure, rather than practice. Nevertheless, they are much practised in the towns and more populous districts, and are of incalculable benefit to the slave, and of no great good to the master. It will be seen that if Cuba was annexed to the United States, the State having the power to make her local laws, would probably continue those already in existence in regard to slaves, and that these laws would have a powerful influence in assimilating the laws of our Southern States to them It is known also that many of the slaveholders in Cuba are in favor of gradual emancipation, by freeing every child born of slave parents after a certain age, and emancipation to all who survive twenty-five years, and thus, much powerful aid would be given from a right source to the anti-slavery movement

A SAFE PREDICTION.—The N Y *Dutchman* predicts that the principle of absolute free trade is destined before many years to become a leading and successful political question in the United States Direct taxation, it says, would not only censure a cheap government but it would make every man pay towards the expenditure of the nation, according to his property and income. This is now far from being the case So long as the government is supported by monies obtained by duties on imports, so long the poor man contributes as much towards the expenses of the country as the millionaire The mechanic that works for two dollars a day uses as much salt, coffee and sugar, as those dandies in the people of Wall Street, whose incomes amount to $5,000 a month Direct taxation would rectify and this injustice It would make William B Astor contribute $5,000 towards the annual expenses of the national government, while the mechanic that now contributes some $50 per annum, would escape with five or ten Direct taxation would not only break up injustice, but it would drive some ten thousand idle officials from our custom houses and set them at digging potatoes and raising flowers These are some of the effects of direct taxation, and that the people will eventually become satisfied of the equity and justness of the system, no one acquainted with their mathematical attainments, can doubt for a moment

THE GADSDEN TREATY—Both houses of Congress have passed the bill making the appropriation of $10,000,000 to carry out the terms of the treaty, between the U S and Mexico Much opposition was manifested to the bill in the House; and C L Benton made a strong speech against it and denouncing the treaty in strong terms The bill passed the House by a vote of 103 to 62

☞ The *Gazette* says "if Mayor King should undertake the suppression of the Slave traffic in Erie," it will be the first time [illegible] of its ability" Now, we ask the *Gazette* in a plain plain—is the organ of Mr King, why it doesn't set up a man [illegible] question, and that's the point [illegible] temperance [illegible] give some *practical* evidence that [illegible] playing fast and loose upon the question [illegible] Where [illegible] If you are [illegible] practically, the very [illegible] against Bigler without any [illegible] not escape by any such [illegible] as we have mentioned You must [illegible] King should be [illegible] you have set up [illegible] friends of prohibition

☞ D. R. M[illegible] Congressional Committee [illegible] 4th of August [illegible] five working days [illegible] expense of the Appropriation Bill [illegible] which day [illegible] Sentinel

☞ B. L. R[illegible] New York [illegible] of Grace G[illegible] Congressional [illegible] of Dr. [illegible] The Basin [illegible] Pilgrim [illegible] University [illegible]

POCKET BILL—[illegible] 3,000 [illegible] be paid exclusively [illegible] country and after the first of January [illegible] payments to be made by stamps [illegible] made from money paid by the Postmasters themselves [illegible] will secure to the Department an income of several thousand dollars, by the simplicity of the most important branch of its duties, and thereby lessening the amount of clerical labor, it will also save the Postmasters from much vexatious and loss

☞ A man named Walker, residing at Bellows Falls, Vermont, having been fined a number of times for selling liquor, has crossed the river into New Hampshire and put up a building on the bank of the river, and there he keeps his stock of liquor warm. His residence being in Vermont, is also on the bank of the river, and he has built a strong wire fence from his building to the other side of the river. A man enters his house in the Vermont side, imparts his order and jug, which are placed in a basket and pulled across the stream, the jug is filled, and takes its way back into Vermont to its original proprietor, thus evading the Vermont liquor law and its penalties—*Hartford Times.*

MOVING WEST—A [illegible] husband who [illegible] view of the high prices of all articles of [illegible] easily in our city, proposed to his wife to remove to a rural [illegible] West She was delighted with the idea, because, said she, [illegible] —we were there four years ago, [illegible] *and died of the fever and ague!* Our friend hasn't talked of moving west since—*Utica Tel*

☞ Senator Douglas' handsome residence, in the neighborhood of the Capitol, was struck by lightning in half a dozen places during the late storm The fluid tore the plaster from several of the rooms, nine of which it entered, broke many windows, chandeliers, and did a good deal of mischief Mr Douglas says he has been hung in effigy, burnt in effigy, denounced by the press, and that he has now been struck by lightning But he adds, "I wasn't at home"

☞ "Will you rise now, my love?" said a bankrupt's wife to her sleepy spouse; "the sun broke long ago," "I wonder," replied the insolvent financier, "if the endorsers were secured."

Personal and General Observations.

'Pencillings by the Way'

After our paper was prepared for press last week, I stowed ourself into a buggy, beside a congenial "chum," and, behind one of "Perry's" fast nags, took a most delightful ride through the western parts of Erie and Crawford counties. We say delightful, for never have we seen the fields so laden with the products of the husbandman, or the people generally, whether in village or country, appear so prosperous. Every where the [illegible] industry was visible, both in the increased number of acres put in cultivation on the one hand, and the enterprise displayed in erected dwellings, stores, and shops in the various villages we passed through, on the other hand. Our own county, always famed as the more enterprising country village, looked more enterprising and thriving than ever. Quite a number of new dwellings, we learn, have been erected since we were last there, and [illegible] as we were informed, and can readily believe, [illegible] Were we a city millionaire, we know of no spot we would choose in preference to Girard, to spend a portion of the hot and sultry summer months. Located in a thriving, enterprising town on the Canal, [illegible] road meetings and the manufacture of [illegible] though it was able, though not engaged as [illegible] to "paddle its own canoe," and take care of itself. We regret to learn that the Messrs. Page are making arrangements to remove their Car Factory in consequence of the timber in their neighborhood becoming exhausted This will be a sad blow to the future prosperity of Lockport. About the centre of our route, we found equally flourishing Hoe works, immense quantities of Hoe, Shovel and Hatchet handles manufactured. Also, the wood work for [illegible] Horse rakes, &c, &c, giving steady and profitable employment for a large number of laborers. The Messrs North and Denio, engaged in the Hoe factory, have a manufactory in New York where the Hoes and Shovels are made, intended for a western market, are sent to [illegible] and when finished are shipped by way of the Canal either to the Ohio at Beaver, or Erie, and from thence to their place of destination. We did not learn the amount of these articles at Albion, but the sum total at Meadville, Crawford county, was [illegible] This place has sprung from an insignificant village to be a fine flourishing village, within [illegible] years. Situated upon the Canal, and surrounded by a fertile country of unsurpassed fertility, it reports of a very flourishing trade. [illegible] have been so and appreciated to such an extent [illegible] of Commerce, that the village has now [illegible] less an appearance as any we have seen [illegible] Some very fine business houses [illegible] —one by our friend R. Dickson—[illegible] will add much to the character and [illegible] Altogether we think a more enterprising community than that of Meadville [illegible] Thousands from [illegible] surpasses the age one five months ago [illegible] State, and the country is rapidly [illegible] Mexicans wolf and "more honest" [illegible] expected, and the [illegible] generally [illegible] people of Mexico [illegible] way out of their present difficulties [illegible] resolved to the [illegible] citizens with [illegible] pray that a [illegible] However, even [illegible] Meadville friends we [illegible] Access from [illegible] Meadville is improving [illegible] villages in process of erection [illegible] age under the patronage [illegible] Meadville has to have [illegible] water we have [illegible] fresh water! [illegible] has been taken by [illegible] guarantee in the form of the water works [illegible] The water is procured from [illegible] from the village from springs [illegible] Of course it is soft and pure [illegible] reservoir will be at [illegible] streams over the highest [illegible] we find our readers will agree with [illegible] Meadville ought to be, in a few years a very [illegible] Our way home we [illegible] a short time and were pleased to see [illegible] of substantial improvement [illegible] VAN TASSEL, alike creditable [illegible] and ornamental to the village. [illegible] our readers if any of their [illegible] route we have traveled [illegible]

THE MAN THAT DOES ADVERTISE—[illegible] the following [illegible] "Who shall say that [illegible] money [illegible] fellow [illegible] never [illegible] customers [illegible] system. He is ever [illegible] "competition is the life of trade" [illegible] as honest as [illegible] with the law which [illegible] wasting time [illegible] and from [illegible] which [illegible] their fingers [illegible] their own wants [illegible] Fancy Crockery, selling [illegible] accordance with human [illegible] for whoever knows [illegible] what is necessary," when he could [illegible] If you find a [illegible] and as he don't depend on [illegible] of your trade with him [illegible] made up by way of [illegible] anything about his salesman [illegible] dearly bought experience He [illegible] mill boy, while his neighbors [illegible] winning golden opinions [illegible]

☞ A [illegible] journal recommends [illegible] for gratification of the heart [illegible] where a lady aged [illegible] years. [illegible] exchange, commenting [illegible] found to be a severe [illegible] for both sexes [illegible] a young lady who [illegible