THE ERIE OBSERVER

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SATURDAY.....NOVEMBER 21, 1857.

News of the Week.

—The special Washington correspondent of Col. Forney's *Press* says, it is certain that Mr. Buchanan, in his first annual message to Congress, will take bold ground on the currency question; that he will re-affirm the principles laid down so clearly in his celebrated speech on the Independent Treasury Bill. He believes that it was the intention of the framers of the Constitution to establish a hard-money currency, and that the action of Congress since has been a steady departure from that intention. It will be his object, then, to retrace the false steps taken, and to bring the Government back to the true ground. The issue will be made in the next Congress, whether *State* banks have the constitutional power to issue circulating "promises to pay." There will be a large party to take the negative of the argument, who will not, it is said, yield until a decision has been given on the question by the Supreme Court of the United States. A general bankrupt law for the banks will be presented for action. This will provide a fixed course for putting into liquidation insolvent banks all over the Union.

—*Charles Cowins*, a youth *sixteen years of age*, was arraigned last Wednesday in the Federal Court, at Norfolk, and when called upon to plead, arose as pale as death, and for some time his lips were sealed; at length he said: "Gentlemen of the jury—I plead guilty. In an unguarded moment I committed the act, and would afterwards have given the world had I never done it. All I can ask, gentlemen, is that, as I am young, it may go some way in mitigating my punishment. Mr. Tas. Taylor, his counsel, made some feeling remarks, stating that this youth was the darling of a fond and doting mother. The court, jury, and bar seemed much affected, and, many tears were shed. The jury found him guilty. The judge still, during the term, sentence him for not less than ten nor more than *twenty years*—the minimum and maximum terms. It will be remembered that his crime was rifling letters of money in the post office at Portsmouth, while employed there as a clerk.

—In the case of the Commonwealth *ext.* McAllister and Moss, recently carried to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania on a writ of error to the Court of Common Pleas of Lancaster county, it was decided that "when an administrator or trustee deposits trust funds in his own name in a bank or savings institution which fails, the loss shall fall upon him, and not upon the *cestique* trust." The court held that "the liability of an administrator or trustee for funds lost by the failure of the bank or institution in which they have been deposited does not depend upon the good faith, prudence, or judgment with which he may have acted, nor upon the fact that he has deposited his own funds in the same place. He is personally responsible for the loss of the money deposited in his name, because he did not make the deposit as administrator or trustee." This is an important decision, which it would be well for all persons who may have fiduciary powers in their hands to remember.

—In Baltimore, on Friday night, Thomas Pierce, of the notorious "Rough Skins," was shot dead at a groggery on Fell's Point, whilst playing cards. He was shot from without, three balls entering his head, killing him instantly. The assassin escaped. Mrs. Wesling, a German woman, was assassinated by three men in the same vicinity, having two shots in the shoulder. On the same day, a man named Boose was shot while standing in the door of his own house, situated in the eastern part of the city, but was not seriously wounded. An attempt was made to assassinate another man named Craggs, when on one of the most public wharves, but it failed. The funeral of the "Rough Skin" Pierce took place on Saturday with great parade. The coffin was shrouded in the American standard and was followed by several know-nothing clubs numbering 700 or 800 persons.

—The stockholders of the Pennsylvania Bank held a meeting in Philadelphia on Monday, when Col. Patterson, the President, and the Board of Directors, resigned their seats. Resolutions were passed appointing a committee to investigate the frauds and select new Directors. Col. Patterson said that no report could be made under present circumstances, but it was possible that by careful nursing and the Bank reconstituted. Many the debts of the Bank could, he said, of the speakers denounced President Allibone in most severe terms. John M. Dutton defended his character, and declared that he would return to vindicate himself, and no one would dare to repeat the slander. Great confusion followed, and a storm of hisses and groans interrupted the speaker. A resolution to accept the act legalizing the suspension was adopted, when the meeting adjourned.

—An association has been formed at Philadelphia for the purpose of sending to the West the surplus female population of that city. It is to be man aged exclusively by the ladies, prominent among whom is Mrs. Sarah J. Hale, editress of the *Lady's Book*. The idea of the founders is to open one or more offices, at which ladies will attend to register the names of the applicants, make inquiries with regard to character, so that none but respectable and proper women shall be taken, and then open a correspondence with the editors of newspapers at the West, to learn the points were females are most needed. Agents will be employed to forward the emigrants, see to their wants, provide places, defray expenses, etc.

—Daniel Emmerson was arrested in St. Louis on Saturday the 25th ult., on a charge of obtaining goods to the amount of $14,000 from certain clothing firms in New York by false representations. He managed to escape from the officers in charge, as we learn from the St. Louis *Democrat*, by leaping from the cars just after the express train started from Fairmount on Wednesday last, at three o'clock in the morning. Emmerson being an old man, the officers did not think it requisite to handcuff him, but depended upon their watchfulness to land him safe in New York. The train was stopped as soon as his escape was discovered, but he could not be found, and no tidings have since been obtained of him.

—They have had a meteor in Michigan. The Jackson Citizen describes it: "About five degrees west and north of the zenith, stood a *ball of liquid fire, as a full moon*, completely surrounded with diverging and oscillating rays for about two degrees from the centre of the meteor. After remaining stationary for a few seconds it moved towards the horizon in a north of west course, at first slowly, but with increasing velocity until it looked like the picture of an old fashioned comet. When about five degrees above the horizon, it seemed to burst and disappeared. Many persons were on the street, and it was so sudden and brilliant as to cause exclamations of surprise and alarm.

—On Sunday morning a woman by the name of O'Brian, living near Tiffi's farm on Ohio street, died, and under such circumstances as to create suspicion of foul play.—The matter reaching the Coroner's ear an inquest was held on the body last evening, and a verdict rendered of murder. The evidence on the inquest clearly pointed to her husband Michael O'Brian as being the cause of her death. Information of the affair being given at Chief Bagnall's office, policemen White and Marvell were started in pursuit of Michael. He was found at his house, and at once arrested, and committed this morning to jail by Coroner Nott. The body of the woman was badly bruised.—*Buff. Com.*

—A few months ago the papers gave an account of the loss by the late Mrs. Bank, of Philadelphia, of $20,000 worth of jewels, which were abstracted from her apartments after one of her splendid entertainments. The police were informed of the robbery and were actively engaged in the search for the thieves, when they were informed by the lady that they need make no further effort! It was supposed that she had discovered the delinquency, who proved to be a person she in her kindness of heart would not expose.

—The Dutch Government has determined upon the emancipation of the slaves in its West Indian colonies, paying a full equivalent to the owners of slaves for the property that is to be taken from them, and providing that the emancipated shall contribute to the formation of a fund destined eventually to reimburse the State the expense of their liberation. The number of persons to be set free cannot be very large.

—A meeting of the Boston Board of Trade was held on Wednesday evening, at which the report of the query here; and the modification of the banking system, by having only one bank of issue for the State, with the bills based on specie or State securities, was advocated. Resolutions were also presented favoring the forwarding of produce from the West in payment of bills, in view of the present disordered state of exchange.

—Gen. John R. Ward, who has just been chosen President of the Georgia Senate, will be recognized as the President of the Democratic National Convention at Cincinnati. He is a man of sterling abilities, and has a host of warm friends among the Northern Democracy.

—Hon. Isham G. Harris, was inaugurated as Governor of Tennessee, at Nashville, on the 3d inst. His inaugural address was redolent of Democracy, our glorious Union, and devotion to the stars and stripes. The occasion was described as imposing.

—It is stated by *Thompson's Reporter* that counterfeit dimes are in circulation to a large extent. They are an excellent imitation of the genuine, having the requisite ring and color.

WE WANT REFORM.

Never was a better time than the present to advocate it. Never in the currency of the country, brought by from the Banks of the Bogus almost, nose and hide that the Banking system, as at present conducted, is defective—that it needs a thorough and radical reformation. With the most prolific country in the world, embracing an agricultural surface unexampled in extent and richness—with mineral resources unlimited, combining at once these that enter into every day consumption and those that constitute the circulating medium of the world—we are periodically subject to commercial revulsions and panics that shake the very foundations of trade and render futile the precautionary enactments of legislation. Why is this?—why, with the land teeming with the products of the earth, and the mines of California sending forth their millions monthly, should public confidence all at once topple and fall, and bury beneath it the sagacious merchant as well as the honest laborer who looks to his weekly stipend for the means to feed his wife and little ones! The protectionist will answer that it is low duties—that we import more than we export—and thus drive the gold from the country. We do not believe this; besides we never could understand why gold, as mushy product of the country as wheat, was not as legitimate an article of commerce.—Every merchant knows that specie only goes abroad when it is cheaper than exchange—that is to say, when it is cheaper relatively to property here than it is on the other side of the water. When prices are high, money is cheaper than property, and is exported in its stead. The whole commerce of the world, if the currency in every country was perfectly healthy, could be carried on simply by the interchange of commodities and the drawing of bills of exchange without the shipment to and fro of a dollar of specie. The fickle migrations of money, back and forth, are wholly independent of and aside from that regular interchange of commodities between nations and continents, which constitutes the great bulk of actual commerce. It is the rise or fall of the value of money compared with property in one country above or below its value in another that produces the migration of specie. Thus, for a long series of years we have been cursed in the United States by a system of high prices, property being dear and money cheap; and during the whole period the cheap article has been dearer, while property which commanded such high prices with us, has come over to us in quantities larger than was required by the legitimate and natural interchanges of commerce. Money has never been shipped from this country abroad except when it has been relatively cheaper here and dearer abroad; and property has never come to us from abroad in quantities greater than the natural interchange of commerce would have caused, except when it has been dearer here in comparison with money than it was abroad. This mutual movement of specie and surplus merchandise has had nothing to do with the tariff, nothing with gold as a staple product, but has depended absolutely on the value of money on one side and on the other as compared with property.

This being so, the enquiry arises—why has gold been cheap here—worth less here—than in Europe, and thus sought a market there. The answer is plain, and to reason obvious to the vision of every political economist—it is simply because a vitiated and almost worthless currency, made up of paper promises to pay, issued by irresponsible Banking institutions, has usurped its functions as a circulating medium among the people. It is a fact within the observation of every body who handles two dollars in money, that the representative of a dollar which is of the less value crowds out of circulation that of the most value. Thus, the farmer, the merchant, or the mechanic, who receives a sum of money composed in equal parts of Illinois and New York bills and gold, will invariably pay out the Illinois first, the New York next, but the gold he will lay by for future use. Now this invariable law of circulation holds good throughout the world; and hence, the more prolific our manufacture of bank paper to fill up the channels of circulation, the greater is our exportation of gold. It is not wanted here as a circulating medium, therefore it seeks a market where it is wanted. And this theory explains why the moment the Banks suspended in this country, and gold came into demand as a circulating medium, the tide of exportation ceased, while the arrival of every steamer from England exhibits large consignments of specie. And this will be so until public confidence in Banks is again restored, and on the strength of that confidence, they are again induced to commence another inflation of currency and of prices.

To remedy this, we want a thorough and radical reform, and in such a reform our own State should take the lead. Her position, politically and otherwise, points to her as the leader, and we trust she will not shrink from the task. It is not our province or purpose, to indicate the shape this reform should assume, but that it is needed all admit, and that there are those to whose hands the destinies of the State are committed who are abundantly able and willing to meet and dispose of the question, we cannot doubt. If we are to have banks at all—and we ask not how we are *at this time* to get rid of them—it is manifest to every one that a better and safer system must be devised. It is asserted by some that the system known as Free Banking, is the safest and best yet tried. But even that of New York, which for years has been held up as a model of wisdom, is not perfect. Perhaps with such modifications as time and experience have shown to be necessary, it might be made to answer the purpose. It certainly would be an improvement on the present irresponsible system of corporations with which the State is cursed—because, as the Hollidaysburg *Standard* well says, "holders of notes of a bank to established would have assurance of their ultimate redemption, while under the present law a cashier or president may default, the bank close its doors, and the depositors and note holders may whistle for their money." The other suggestion of the *Standard*, that if a free banking law should be adopted, the institutions created under it, should be prohibited from issuing "notes of a less denomination than twenty dollars," is also worthy of consideration. If we tolerate Banking at all, we should only tolerate it so far as the mercantile transactions of the country demand, and to fill that demand notes of a small denomination are not a necessity. The every day transactions of life can as well be—aye, and better to—carried on with gold and silver *dollars* than with one *dollar rags*. But the difficulty in the road is want of concert between the States. Thus, although we in Pennsylvania might prohibit Banks from issuing bills of a less denomination than twenty dollars, Ohio and New York, and other States, would defeat the objects sought to be reached—namely, to give the *people* a gold and silver currency—by continuing to allow their banks to issue small bills. In fact, the present five dollar law of this State is a dead letter upon the statute books simply because the States surrounding us fail to see the wisdom of a similar enactment and continue to tolerate a depreciated currency for the people.

But is there no remedy for this? Is there no way to reach the grievous wrong which all acknowledge the circulation of depreciated notes of a small denomination inflict upon the laboring portion of the people? We think there is—and it is the remedy suggested by the Cincinnati *Enquirer*—namely, that if the States will not do it themselves, let Congress, in the exercise of its sovereign power of taxation, impose a prohibitory tax upon all Bank issues below a certain denomination—say, for instance, as is suggested above, below the denomination of twenty dollars. It is the duty of the General Government to provide a sound currency for the *people*. That duty has been attempted by the establishment of the mint, and the coinage of gold and silver; but this wise intention of the framers of our government to give to the people a safe and reliable currency, has been frustrated by the usurpation of the States in claiming and exercising the right to authorise the issue of "bills of credit" in the similitude of Bank notes. Let Congress then retrace its steps, and impose a tax that will effectually prevent the issue of small notes in every State—then let Pennsylvania revise her Banking system, by adopting the Stock security basis with such modifications as time and experience show to be necessary, and we shall have taken one step at least on the road of reform. We will give the commercial interests all the bank paper their necessities require, while we will give to the people gold and *silver* for their every day transactions.

KANSAS.—We have all sorts of accounts of the proceedings of the Kansas Constitutional Convention. One states that a separate clause to the constitution, broadly sanctioning slavery, will only be submitted to the people for ratification or rejection, while the constitution itself, and the Territorial laws confirmed by it, will remain in full force; another states that a report from the minority of the committee on the constitution was adopted, providing that the question of ratification or rejection should not be submitted to the people. This was done on the 7th inst., but before the final vote on the adoption of the constitution was taken, the Convention adjourned till the 9th. Another account states that the constitution is to go before the people, and that the election is to take place on the 21st of December. It will take a day or two to clarify the matter, so as to enable us to see exactly how the constitution stands.

The Republican majority in Iowa is over 3,000.—A Republican gain in every county.—*Warren Mail.*

How do you make "a Republican gain in every county," when Dunnett carried Iowa by nearly twice 3000 last Fall? Your idea of geography must be a good deal like that of the boy that accused Mansfield for being late at school, by saying that it was so slippery that every step he took ahead, he slid two back: "How did you get here at all?" queried the teacher. "Why," said young hopeful, "I turned and went the other way." So with the hopeful of the Mail; he claims "a gain in every county" in Iowa by a loss of nearly 3000 "the other way."

NEW YORK.

(Correspondence of the Erie Observer.)

NEW YORK, Nov. 16, 1857.

"Rhyme and Reason"—Work or Wind?—Rhyme or reason, which now goes up from the unemployed class of labor with which this market is overstocked. There is no reason why labor does not find a market just now, that should be taken into consideration by the unemployed. Every other commodity is reduced below its usual price by holders, in order to tempt investment. But labor—we are possessed with the idea that their labor has no ready-made value and should not be subjected to the operation of the laws of supply and demand which regulate the prices of all other commodities. They will not make a voluntary reduction of prices and therefore labor offers no unusual inducements to capital. If mechanics and working men generally would consent to work at 25 or 30 per cent less than their old rates, there would be afforded an opportunity of erecting buildings, manufacturing goods, etc., at unusually low rates, which would tempt the capitalist to invest his capital in such operations. Now the present trouble is that money is stagnant in the hands of capitalist. They have plenty of it but they dare not lend it to the parties, and the majority of them is lost. There is plenty of money in this city for which safe investments are wanted at less than the legal rate of interest. One of the reasons why capitalists will not lend to manufacturers and traders is because the prices of goods in the market have sunk below the cost of production, as a general thing, and under such circumstances increased production would be an unsafe investment. What is the remedy? Reduce the cost of production. Then manufacturers can afford to hold stock on hand for a better season. Builders can afford to erect houses and wait sales until the increased cost of building shall have increased the value of production. Therefore we say to the laborer, if you cannot get a dollar a day, offer to work for fifty cents, and you will thus make a market for your labor. And again, the reduced prices of all commodities render the expense of living lighter.

The labor meetings of the week in the Park and Tompkins Square have developed some queer theories of social economy, and the multitudes have been favored with the advice of all sorts of blind leaders from the disciples of Albert Brisbane to a mad French woman who has a plan of supporting all the poor of the city of New York in a magnificent hotel, the expenses of which were to be defrayed by the erection of a church! How this magical process of making one debt pay for another was to be carried out the lady does not condescend to explain.

The discussions with regard to the causes and effects of the panic have developed throughout the community a surprising amount of ignorance and misconception as regards some of the fundamental principles of true political economy. This shows the necessity for having business men educated to their business; whether the sphere of their operations be financial or commercial they should be prepared for their practical researches by thorough instruction in the theory of commercial and financial science.

The arrival of the Arabia was awaited with the intensest anxiety by business men in this city, especially importers who are even curious to know how the manufacturers on the other side would feel when they received the intimation that their debts due here could not be liquidated, for six months more; at least! But it seems they have not got the worst of it into their heads, even yet. It takes those Johnny Bulls some time to get an idea, good or bad, thoroughly through their skulls. They persist in supposing that our Banks have acted sensibly since the suspension, that money has become easy, and everything is going on at a plank road rate towards prosperity, whereas, since the Arabia's mails went out, we have been most utterly and entirely smashed, we have had our face, commercially speaking, thrust into the dust, yea our very noses have been rubbed in it! ERIE.

THE NEXT CONGRESS.

Elections for members of the House of Representatives of the next Congress have now been held in all the States of the Union, and the books are posted. They show that in the House of Representatives, consisting of 234 members, the strength of parties is as follows:

Democrats	128
Republicans	92
Know Nothings	14
Democratic majority over all	22

This majority will be increased by three Democratic members from Minnesota, as soon as that territory becomes a State. In the above count the 3d district, Ohio, is assigned to Lewis D. Campbell, who, like Chase, claims an election by illegal negro votes. The Democratic candidate will contest and obtain the seat.

The Senate stands:

Democrats	35
Opposition, all shades	25

There are two vacancies—one in Texas and one in South Carolina—both of which will be filled by Democrats. Adding those and the two Senators to be chosen from Minnesota when it is admitted, and the Democrats will have 39—a majority of 14.

P. S. The vacancy in Texas has been filled by the election of J. Pinckney Henderson, Democrat.

NEW YORK ELECTION.—The Albany *Argus* of Thursday states that it has received official returns from all the counties of the State except Sullivan. It makes an estimate for that county, and states the result for Secretary of State as follows:

Tucker, Democrat	196,802
Clapp, Republican	177,854
Putnam, American	67,234
Total	436,890

The average Democratic majority is 18,594.

THE MORMONS WILL FIGHT.—Dispatches have been received by Gen. Scott from Col. Johnston, confirming the intelligence of the destruction of the government trains on their way to Salt Lake City by the Mormons; the intelligence of which had been previously sent to the government at Washington by Judge Eckels. Col. Johnston's despatches are voluminous; and contain a copy of a violent proclamation issued by Brigham Young. This document declares martial law in Utah, and claims the *right to do so by virtue of his authority as Governor of the* Territory, and Superintendent of Indian affairs, not having been suspended from exercising his functions, and by virtue of his power under the territorial organic act.—Young expressly forbids the U. S. troops entering the Territory without his authority for doing so, and complains that the Mormons have not been treated as American citizens, and that the government of the United States has acted on misrepresentation, the object being to drive the Mormons from the Territory. The language of the proclamation is regarded as a declaration of war. When Col. Alexander was within 30 miles of Fort Bridger, which place is occupied by Mormon troops, he received a letter from Brigham Young through the commander of the Nauvoo legion warning the troops out of the territory; but saying if they desired to remain till spring, they may do so, provided they give up their arms and ammunition. It is evident from this that the Mormons are determined to fight, and Uncle Sam's boys have got a much more formidable job than they bargained for!

A friend, who has an eye to the practical, has laid the following paragraph on our table, with the remark that it is a practical exhibit of the benefits which the cause of Religion has acquired from the agitation of the slavery question:

ANOMOEN PRESBYTERIAN SPLIT.—Splits are becoming common in the Presbyterian body. Last week the Synod of Missouri, consisting of four Presbyteries and fifty-seven churches, held its annual session in St. Louis, and after a long discussion on Slavery, resolved to form itself into an independent body. It refuses fellowship with the New School body, on account of its action at Cleveland last Summer, and declares that it cannot go with the Richmond Convention. It determines to remain an independent Synod "until the providence of God shall seem to make clear the way of duty." By this action the Presbyterian Church in the United States is therefore divided into four separate organizations—the Old School, the New School, the Southern School, and the Missouri School.—There appears to have been some conflict of opinion in the meeting, but the final decision was arrived at harmoniously. Among the distinguished gentlemen present was Rev. Thomas A. Mills, who has taken a prominent part in the Slavery discussions of this Church.—*Times.*

THE CANADIANS IN A PASSION.—The Canadians are just now boiling over with passion on account of an allusion in *Harper's Queen* Victoria's refusal to "receive" literary men and dramatists. The Mercantile Library Association of Hamilton has "gone and done it."—It has

Resolved, That on account of the article which appeared in *Harper's Magazine for November*, calumniating upon and grossly insulting Her Majesty Queen Victoria, the Association do cease to subscribe for that magazine, and that the city papers be requested to publish this resolution.

The article alluded to is more coarse than severe, and reads:

"The Queen of England comes of a family notoriously dull, scarce, and illiterate. The Hanoverian Court of England has never been renowned for a solitary thrill of sympathy with what is noblest and best in England. Her present foolish Majesty frowned to death Lady Flora Hastings, tied a garter around the leg of Louis Napoleon—the unnatural son of an insatiable mother—and now declines to receive as gentlemen the men who do more for England than any other class of Englishmen. Is it believed to think William Shakspeare would not be "received" by Victoria Guelph. May not the Queen of England be a lady as she is a mother? May she publicly "receive" the most distinguished race in her kingdom, and decline to notice the great precursor of Walter Scott. The Queen of England may be a form, but why should Victoria Guelph be a mob?"

—In St. Louis, the landlords have made a movement to reduce the prices of rent. It is a just as well as a prudent and necessary action on the party of property holders to come forward and help relieve some of the difficulties which all classes labor under at this present time. In Chicago landlords have reduced thirty per cent, and in Cincinnati twenty per cent.

Foot, Horse and Steamboat.

JOB WORK, JOB WORK, JOB WORK — CHEAP at this OFFICE. — JOB WORK, JOB WORK, JOB WORK

SKETCHES OF TRAVEL SOUTHWARD.

Correspondence of the Observer.

CHATTANOOGA, Ga., Nov. 6, 1857.

MR. EDITOR:—I left Erie on Friday Evening, the 16th of October, and here I am, after a journey of 1000 miles, a little the worse for wear, 'tis true, but yet safe so far as life and limbs are concerned; whatever of ill-omen popular superstition may ascribe to Friday as being an unlucky day, for me I am a *Believer* in the Incorrectness. I reached the depot just in time to get my baggage on board, bid a hurried farewell to a few friends, jump on the platform of the last car, and was off to the "Sunny South," the land of the Magnolia and the—"negro." I assure you, Mr. Editor, that my feeling, just then, were not of the most pleasant nature, and although not very tender-hearted, yet I felt my eyes moisten when I reflected that, perchance, I might never see those friends again, and that the end of my journey would find me among a class of people whose manners and mode of thinking I was comparatively unacquainted with. Occupied with thoughts of this kind I did'nt notice the stations we passed, and Dunkirk was "made" before I was aware of it. Here I took the New York & Erie Railroad. I was astonished to find so very few taking this route for New York, there not being over twenty passengers on the train when we started. After having found a comfortable seat I took out a copy of the last OBSERVER intending to beguile the weary hours perusing its columns, but, the lights being miserably dim, I soon made the discovery that my optics were unequal to the task. As there was plenty of room for a man to "spread" himself, I next tried the experiment of going to sleep. But that, too, was a decided failure and I "suspended." Such a shaking and thumping! Why, I should as soon attempt to sleep in a mill hopper, with the mill running at top speed. This is decidedly the roughest road I have found yet.

On Saturday morning, at three o'clock, the train came to a dead stop, on account of the track being washed away. To console us somewhat, we took breakfast at a house close by, and at nine o'clock we got a fresh start, and then the idea of getting into New York on time was given up. We soon reached the Susquehanna, and though most every body from your section has traveled that route, yet I am free to confess that I was delighted with the wild and romantic scenery along that river, and to the lovers of picturesque views I would say that one is amply compensated for the shaking received, in the enjoyment of these fine scenic landscapes. At eleven o'clock Saturday evening we were safely landed in Jersey City, and at twelve o'clock I was enjoying the "comforts of Hotel life," in New York. Next day being Sunday, and consequently a sight seeing day, I spent, principally, viewing the buildings along Broadway. Monday forenoon I took a cruise along the wharf in search of the first steamer to sail for Savannah. But I was just two days too late. They leave but once a week, and that on Saturday. So I concluded to take the Charleston steamer, which would sail on Wednesday. Here I had two days to myself and I was laying my plans how to improve the time to the best advantage.

As I had an "Editor's Complimentary" to Barnum's Museum, which ticket was handed me by a friend in Erie, I paid a visit to that "institution" in the evening. The Aquaria forms, at present, the most novel and attractive feature. In the concert room the Welsh Nightingale was trying to cheer with her warblings a miserably small audience, on whose countenances "Panic" seemed stamped with indelible letters. They could not be amused even there.

Tuesday forenoon I stepped into one of the Sixth Avenue cars, and visited the Crystal Palace, where the 27th Annual Fair of the American Institute was just then being held, and if any one doubts the ingenuity and inventive genius of the American people, let them go there and be convinced. The whole nave of the Palace was filled with all kinds of machinery. Among the rest I noticed what purported to be the first practical application of Electricity as a motive power. It is called "Vergne's Electric Dyramic Motor," and when I saw it, it was driving two large wheels, some eight feet in diameter, emitting electric sparks which dazzled the eye. Another humane as well as useful invention was a life-preserving trunk. Four of them fastened together will make a raft that will hold eight or ten persons, as was sufficiently demonstrated by a raft of the kind which was floating in a reservoir made for the purpose. "Andrews' Centrifugal Working Pump," discharged immense volumes of water, and it would seem as though it were capable of keeping a ship afloat almost any length of time.

The afternoon was spent at the Dusseldorf Gallery of Paintings, I never expect to be able to appreciate one half of the art embodied in those works of German masters, and therefore I'll be silent.—They speak for themselves. Suffice it to say that I spent five hours in the Gallery, and my only regret was that I had not weeks to spend there.

On Wednesday I took my baggage on board the Columbia, then about to sail. At four o'clock P. M. we were steaming down the Bay, and at seven o'clock we passed Sandy Hook an our course for Charleston, with a light wind from shore, which kept steady from the same point through the night and next day. We were going as fast as steam and canvass could carry us, but as the ship was very light, not having enough freight in her hold to ballast her, she rolled considerably, which was slightly detrimental to her speed and which also caused a little sea-sickness among some of the passengers. At four o'clock next day we got sight of the light house on Cape Hatteras. In this latitude, about ninety miles to the eastward, the Central America went down. At five we were in full view of the white sandy shore of the Cape, and could plainly see the surf breaking on the beach. This is considered the most dangerous point on the eastern coast, on account of the head winds liable to be met with in this region, and even old mariners approach these treacherous waters with much caution and some uneasiness. As the sun went down the wind shifted several points to the north, though still favorable to our course, the Captain ordered a reef taken in what canvass was up. Some half dozen or more of the passengers were seated on deck, smoking and discussing the chances of the weather, preferring that situation to that of being rolled about in their berths. One of the number, a gentleman from Charleston, informed the rest that he was a passenger on the same ship when she was out in the gale which was so fatal to the Central America, that the Captain never left the wheel for two days and nights, and that he brought her out safe, without any damage whatever to her hull or rigging. Eleven o'clock, wind steady from the same point, sea pretty rough, sky slightly overcast. The Cape is safely rounded, and there are no immediate signs of a change in the weather. Passengers are retiring to their berths and the deck became deserted. At 3 o'clock next morning this ship exchanged signals with the "Adger," from Charleston to New York. Friday morning a perceptible change had taken place in the atmosphere, and we felt that we were in a southern latitude. We made steady progress all day, and at three o'clock we caught sight of the shores of South Carolina. At four we crossed Charleston bar just in time to take the ebbing tide. Had the ship been a half hour later, or a little heavier freighted, she would not have been able to cross the bar, and would have had to wait for the tide which sets in at eleven o'clock. As it was her keel but just grated on the sand. You will acknowledge, Mr. Editor, that we had cause to congratulate ourselves on our quick passage, one of the fastest ever made.

We steamed up Charleston river, and everybody was on deck enjoying the beautiful prospect along the shore. Charleston presents a fine view seaward. At five o'clock the "Columbia" was along side her wharf, and a few minutes after I stood on Southern terra firma, where I will leave you at present, reserving for a future letter my journey to Savannah, and then to the interior.

C. J. F.

☞ We would suggest to the Editors of the *Gazette* and the *American* that it is about time for them to "dry up" on the subject of their connubial felicity. No body questions but that each one has got a much better wife than he deserves—but that fact is no reason why they should stick them under the noses of the readers of their respective papers every week. It is bad enough for a couple of ladies to throw themselves away upon two such ninnies, without being trotted out weekly to gratify the purient taste of their nominal lord and masters. "Dry up" then, both of you—you have "run the thing into the ground" too far already.

☞ The Canadian admirers of Mr. Thomas D'Arcy McGee, the editor of the Montreal *New Era*, have presented him a substantial testimonial of regard, in the shape of a handsome writing desk containing a purse of $2,000. That was'nt bad to take, was it?—*By the by, if any of our friends think of serving us the same way, we beg to assure them that, in view of the hard times, we will be satisfied with the $2,000 minus the desk.*

☞ A western paper notices a curiosity on exhibition in that place, which is said to be "a calf with a man's head, breast and shoulders," and rather thinks it a humbug. "An elbow friend" avers there are a couple of just such curiosities in this city, only here the "critters" wear breeches and boots, and write articles for the *Gazette* and the *American*, on the "unbounded felicity and unmitigated blessedness" of their matrimonial experience.

☞ Next Thursday will be thanksgiving, and as we always like to obey the commands of "those placed in authority," we trust the man that has got our *turkey* will bring it home in time. On second thought, for fear of accidents, perhaps some of our numerous patrons had better bring us one of theirs.

☞ The preliminary steps to the formation of a society for benevolent purposes, were taken at the Presbyterian Session room on Monday evening last. Another meeting will be held at the same place next Monday evening.

☞ The Editor of the Easton *Argus* admires "sourcrout." Just hear him: "Now is the time to put down your Sourcrout for Winter use. Cabbage is plenty and cheap and in those hard times good Crout is just the dish for the poor man as well as the rich. It is easily made and is healthier than mince pies or fried oysters. A dollar's worth of cabbage will make a good-sized tub full"—Very likely—but what is the use of spoiling a "good sized tub," by putting in to it Cabbage to rot.

☞ We desire the attention of our readers to the advertisement of a course lectures to be given in this city during the present winter. Mr. Shillaber, the original Mrs. Partington, gives the opening lecture on Monday Evening next. *Should the attendance be such as to warrant it*, the lectures will be continued by the ablest speakers now before the American public. All who have heard or read—and who has not?—of that genial and quaint old lady, Mrs Partington, and her hopeful son, Ike, will be certain to attend this one, at all events.

P. S. Since the above was written, a letter has been received from Mr. S. stating that he will not be able to reach here on Monday, and hence the lecture is postponed to some other evening, to be announced by bills.

SUGGESTIVE.—Col. SHARKEY, of the Unionteen *Genius of Liberty*, has been taking to himself a wife—and the number of his paper announcing the fact has, on the outside, a tale headed "*A Bag in Pentecoste*," and on the inside an apology for not issuing a paper the week previous "in consequence of the large amount of *job work*" on hand! These two facts, taken in connection, are rather suggestive, still we cannot help congratulating our friend, some cotemporary on getting through with his share of "job work" safely.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A gentleman from Cincinnati, named O'Connell, was in Cleveland, Ohio, a few days since, and was there poisoned by the gas water. City on Wednesday evening, John O'Connell, who had been for three or four years the head man of the Manufacturing department and was considered a very skillful and judicious manager. Conoy had worked there but a short time. They had been engaged in cleaning the purifier, and were found dead. O'Connell had fallen with his head in the purifier and Conoy by the side and partly on it, and the gas was running off through it on foot that the large gas holder which was more than half filled had completely exhausted itself. The purifier holds about three barrow loads of lime.—two had already been removed—showing that they had been working there some time, and it cannot be possible that O'Connell, who understood the matter perfectly, had worked with the gas running, and the only explanation we can give is this—that both men had been working and after removing the two barrow loads it was discovered that the gas was running a little, and Conoy had been sent below to shut it off, but not understanding the cut off, had let it on with its full force; and O'Connell, who was at the purifier, inhaled it immediately and became paralized, and Conoy came up and entered the room not knowing what he had done and got to the purifier and meeting the full current of gas had inhaled it also and died instantly. Conoy leaves a wife and one child and O'Connell a wife and three children.—Each were aged from thirty to thirty five years.

BRUTAL OUTRAGE.—The *Constitution* records the fact that "a brutal outrage was committed on evening last week, on the person of a little girl aged about 12 years, within a few miles of this place, by a fellow by the name of Warren. He violated her and she was afterwards found in an almost dying condition by some one who happened to pass near where she was lying by the roadside. The Justice of the Peace before whom the matter was brought next day, refused to take any action because the little girl was under 14 years of age, and not a legal witness. The villain who committed the deed made his escape in the meantime. *If the facts are as has been stated* the Justice deserves the severest legal punishment, and the rascal who outraged the child ought to be hung up to the first tree, or shot down like a brute, as soon as discovered."

VOYAGE EXTRAORDINARY.—The Prairie du Chien *Courier* announces the arrival at that place of the little sloop *Hornet*, Capt. Jas. Duncan, from this port.—The following is the "log" of the *Hornet*:

The Hornet set sail from Erie, Penn., on Sunday, Oct. 4th, 1857, and arrived at this port Nov. 3d, at 1 P. M., bound for St. Paul, Min. She made Detroit, Mackinaw, Green Bay, ascended Fox river to Winnebago Lake—thence via Oshkosh, Berlin, Princetown, Packwa Lake, Buffalo Lake, up the river to the Portage, hauled over the canal thence to the Wisconsin river, thence down to the Mississippi.

The Hornet is 22 feet long, 6 feet beam, and sloop rigged. Capt. Duncan was accompanied by his wife during the whole voyage, and she alone assisted him in the navigation of the craft. Mrs. Duncan says she has been in good health throughout the voyage, which latter her husband estimates at between twelve and thirteen hundred miles.

The Hornet, though being an open boat, has on board a cooking stove, bedding and stores, and accomplished the voyage without a leak or other accident, the couple eating and sleeping on board.

INCENDIARIES ABOUT.—A bold but unsuccessful attempt was made to fire the new block on the corner of State street and the Public Square, on Sunday last. By advertisement in another column, it will be seen that our city authorities offer a reward for the apprehension of the guilty party.

☞ Prentice gets off a pleasant thing in regard to the visit of Mackay, the English poet, to this country. He says: "Dr. Mackay, as is universally known, is the author of "There's a good time coming;" There seems to be a very general regret that he didn't bring it with him."

☞ The Steam Tug, Noah P. Sprague, of Buffalo, exploded her boiler while in the river opposite Detroit on Saturday. The Tug was torn to pieces and instantly sunk and eight of the crew killed, among whom were the 1st mate, John Ramsdel, of Conneaut, O., and Sanford Everett, wheelsman, of Springfield in this county.

☞ We are glad to see by the *Constitution* that "the Republican party will not disband" nor "change its policy or leaders." The first year of its existence, the party, and its leaders gave us a hard tussle—but this year we have *dressed them out* with hardly an effort—and hence we infer that, by another year, its leaders will be a good deal in the same condition of the man that was so weak he could'nt cast a shadow on the wall. No, no; don't disband, nor change your leaders—we had rather defeat you just as you stand!

☞ The "fancy" had another prize fight near Buffalo this week. The spot selected was across the river from Buffalo, near Fort Erie—and the parties Joe Coburn and Harry Gribben, both of New York. On the twenty-first round, the noise was knocked out of the latter, and the former pocketed the stakes—$1000! The times, if not the morals, of Buffalo must be improving.

THANKSGIVING.—The Congregation of the Park Presbyterian Church will unite by invitation with that of the Baptist, in the services of next Thursday. The sermon will be preached by the REV. MR. BLACKBURN, at 11 o'clock A. M.

☞ The Boston *Traveler* says that the hard times have diminished the number of marriages in that city, as is shown by the register. It is different here. Notwithstanding the times, our readers will see that the matrimonial market has been rather active. Perhaps our young friends have adopted the philosophy of the Irishman who when taken to task for getting married when he was so poor—replied that that was the very reason, for Peggy had a blanket, and he had none, "an sure could'nt it cover two as well one!"

☞ The Connesautville *Courier* is as wise as an owl over the New York election. It says the Republican vote "is very *light*," and for *that* reason—for it gives no other—thinks "New York is soundly republican." The American party, it also says, "polled a very *light* vote," and for *that* reason "argues that, as a distinct party, it is drawing near a dissolution." We call that logic, with a vengeance. First, "New York is soundly republican," although the party "polled a *very light vote*," and next the American party is dead because it did just what the republicans did—"polled a very *light* vote." The *Courier's* reasoning and logic wants "light" we should think.

ANOTHER TELL-LIE-GRAPH.—Telegraphic news from Washington states that "the Administration has