

to her by will; and upon such renunciation, she is entitled to dower of her husband's real estate, of which he died seized. The wife has no control of her own personal estate, or of that of her husband during the marriage, unless it be an extorted allowance for necessities; and at her death, she has no power to dispose of even that which was her own, by will; but the whole belongs to the husband. The husband may encumber his estate, by contracting debts without the consent of his wife; and upon his dying intestate, she is only entitled to the one-third of the personal estate, and a life estate in one third of the real estate, after the payment of all the debts; and, if the estate is not sufficient to the payment of the debts, she loses all. But the wife cannot encumber the real estate she holds in her own right, and upon her death, the whole vests in the husband, during his natural life.

The policy, as well as the justice of this distinction, made by the law in favor of the husband, and against the wife, may well be questioned. The liberal and enlightened spirit of the age, has developed and secured the rights of man, and has redeemed woman and elevated her, from the degrading position she occupied, and placed her, where she always should have been, at the side of her husband, his equal in rank and dignity. Then why should her rights of property still be, to a great extent, controlled by the contracted and illiberal enactments of an age when her husband was her lord, and he might chastise her, by law, as if she were a servant? Our law very carefully provides, that the husband shall not, without the formal consent of his wife, convey his real estate by deed, so as to bar her right of dower, and if this consent is not given, her right is protected, after his death, against the claims of his creditors.

Now, if this be a sound principle, and worthy of the solemn sanctions it has received from the Legislature and the Judiciary, why should it not be extended, so as to preserve to the widow her dower, in all cases where the husband has not only by deed, but by other means, sanctioned by the law, disposed of his real estate, without the formal consent of his wife? If the husband contracts debts, his real estate is as effectually transferred by the law, for the use of his creditors, as if he had conveyed it by deed, with the consent of his wife:—thus the law, at present, enables the husband, by one mode of transfer, to bar his wife's dower, without her consent, while it protects her right with the greatest pertinacity, if he adopts another mode of transfer. If the widow's right of dower is good in one case, as is universally admitted, it is equally as good in the other, and the power of the husband to take it away, by changing the mode of transferring the estate, is destructive of a sound and well established principle, and should be repealed. This conclusion appears to me to be irresistible; and I, therefore, recommend the passage of a law, securing to married women their right of dower, in all cases where the estates of their husbands are transferred, after the passage of the act, without their formal consent.

In the annual message, to the Legislature, at the last session, and in several messages containing objections to bills for dissolving marriage contracts, I have expressed my opinions upon the subject of granting legislative divorces. These opinions have been strengthened by further reflection, and I shall adhere to them.

The great purposes for which the law-making power was established in the Commonwealth, have been accomplished. General laws have been enacted, and have received the approbation of the people, for securing the enjoyment of the life, the liberty, and reputation of the citizens, and for protecting them in the acquisition, possession, and transmission, of property, and in the pursuit of their own happiness. The foundation of good government being thus laid, the time of the General Assembly at its annual sessions, is more occupied in providing for the contingencies that arise in the progress of our affairs, than in changing the organic laws, as is attested by reference to the annual enactments of the Legislature. For some years past, but few general, while a large number of local laws, have been enacted. The tendency seems to be to substitute special, for general legislation; a practice which may well be regarded as of doubtful utility—and it presents a question, which, in my opinion, deserves grave consideration. General laws, affecting the whole community, receive, in their discussion, the deliberate consideration of all the Representatives of the people. That which interests all, arrests the attention, and secures the care and close investigation of all. Hence, general laws have impressed upon them, the wisdom, the experience, and the judgment, of every member of the Legislature. Having received this deliberate sanction, they usually meet with the approbation of the people, and become permanent rules of action. This reasonable practice, limits and simplifies the questions submitted for legislative discussion, is calculated to shorten the sessions, reduce the expenses of government, and give dignity and importance to the proceedings of the General Assembly.

On the other hand, local legislation excites no interest. A few members, only, who represent the county, township or borough, in which the change of the law is proposed, are concerned in arranging the provisions, and being too often passed upon their request, those special acts are sent forth, with all the imperfections, which the wisdom and deliberate care of the whole body, if they had been general laws, would have corrected. The direct tendency of this practice, is to multiply the demand for local laws—a demand which has increased from year to year, to an alarming extent, which no industry of the General Assembly will be able within the limits of an ordinary session to satisfy, if the practice is continued. Is it not impracticable, in a great State like Pennsylvania to provide special acts to meet all the different and changing views of the citizens, of every borough, township and county? and if this were practicable, would not the policy of establishing an infinite variety of different rules, for the same people, be exceedingly questionable, and introduce great confusion and uncertainty? Would it not defeat one great and beneficial object of sound legislation, which is permanency of the laws? Is there not true wisdom, and sound policy, in preserving and strengthening the unity of the Commonwealth, and in maintaining uniform interests, customs and habits? It is true, there are shades of difference in the condition and local circumstances of the citizens, of separate districts of the State; but, in an advancing and improving country, where intercourse is so direct, and the social relations of life are so generally diffused, these will gradually and certainly disappear under the influence of general laws. We are one people without reference to our ancestry, or the place of our birth. We are all Pennsylvanians—we have the same constitution of government—the same common rights—then why should we not have the same common laws?

In conclusion, permit me to assure you, gentlemen, that I shall most heartily co-operate with you, in all your efforts to advance our beloved Commonwealth, and to promote the welfare of the people.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,
Harrisburg, Jan. 5, 1848.

THE JOURNAL.



Huntingdon, Tuesday, January 12, 1848.

Thanks to Hon. John Blanchard for a continuation of his favors. Also, to Messrs. Evans, Blair and King, of the State Legislature, for favors from Harrisburg. To Mr. Evans we are under especial obligations for a copy of the message received by first mail after its delivery.

We are Ready
To receive new subscriptions and payments of old accounts at all times at our office. Walk in gentlemen, we shall be very happy to see you.

The regular term of our Court commenced its session on yesterday to continue two weeks.

Want of room forbids our replying to the fabrications contained in last week's Globe, in this paper. We shall take some notice of them in our next.

County Convention.
The Delegates to the Whig County Convention will meet in the New Court House on Wednesday (to-morrow) evening, at 7 o'clock.

MEXICAN NEWS.—The latest dates from Mexico are unimportant, in any other point of view than as they confirm the impressions of previous dates, as to the remoteness of peace. There is said to be a disposition on the part of the Mexican authorities to treat for peace, but we have no confidence in their dispositions. Mr. Trist having been recalled, has no power to enter upon any negotiations, and we see no possible method of coming to terms with the aggressors.

We hope Mr. Polk may yet conclude to invest Gen. Scott with free powers to treat, &c. We have sufficient confidence in the old General to think such an appointment would hasten peace, more than any other thing Mr. Polk could do.

Snow to the depth of two or three inches, fell on Saturday night last, since which time we have winter in all its force.

A Rumor.
The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, under date of Jan. 7, says: Rumor has it that Gen. Taylor is to be sent to Mexico to take the command in chief; and Generals Scott, Worth and Pillow, and a Col. Duncan, are all to be recalled.

Dare the Administration recall Gen. Scott? We shall see.

The Message.
The annual message of Governor Shunk, to the exclusion of almost everything else, is given at length in the Journal of this week. We have no room for comments upon the various subjects discussed by the Governor, even if it was necessary to offer them, and shall therefore hand the document over to our readers after briefly alluding to one or two portions of it.

In glorifying the Polk Tariff of 1846, the Governor takes occasion to congratulate the Farmers on the repeal of the high duties on grain by the British Government. But unfortunately for the intended effect of his Excellency's congratulations, the late foreign news, published in Philadelphia simultaneously with the message, informs us that the English have abandoned free trade on their side and restored the high duties on our grain, by adopting the SLIDING SCALE, the effect of which will be seen by reference to our abstract of the foreign news. In regard to the re-charter of banks, the suggestions of the Governor are eminently just and proper, and we hope to see them carried out by the Legislature. The Governor's argument against the alarming increase of local legislation—the passage of special acts, having no general interest, is also, in the main, sound and worthy of attention; but he carries his opposition to acts of incorporation to too great a length. There are enterprizes of vast importance both to the people and the State, by which all classes would be benefited, entirely beyond individual means, for which liberal charters should be granted to companies. Among this class, the project, vetoed by Mr. Shunk, to construct a railroad from Huntingdon to Stonerstown, with the privilege of mining coal on Broop Top mountain and carrying it to Market, stands prominent. We would fain hope that Mr. Shunk would withdraw his weak and silly objections to this project and allow it to go into operation. The Governor presents an encouraging statement of the finances of the Commonwealth, which will be gratifying to all her citizens.

FROM WASHINGTON.
A Washington correspondent of the Pa. Intelligencer, under date of Jan. 4, says: We have had a protracted session to-day, in the House, in order to pass a resolution calling for the instructions by which Santa Anna was passed into Mexico; and after every resistance which the ingenuity of our opponents could devise, overcome, they abandoned the contest, and the resolution was adopted. It now "remains to be seen" what course Mr. Polk will pursue, and whether we shall have a development of the facts connected with that disgraceful and treasonable intrigue.

Thus far the Whigs have worked together admirably and if the same harmony and concert continues to prevail something may be accomplished for the benefit of the country before the adjournment of Congress.

Great Speech of Mr. Calhoun.
Mr. CALHOUN'S great speech was delivered in the Senate on Tuesday, and the Hall was thronged with eager listeners. The eagle-eyed Statesman was never more inspiring. He urged anew his proposition for placing our troops upon the line we designed to occupy, and insisted that, however the contest might be prolonged, this would be the ultimate disposition of things, as there was no stable government in Mexico with which to treat, nor could there be one unless supported by our army.

We shall try and publish this speech in our next.

Mr. Polk Rebuked.
The President was most signally rebuked by Congress on Monday, and the truth vindicated. The National Intelligencer says that Mr. Horstox, the Whig member from Delaware, introduced a resolution of thanks to Gen. Taylor, and the Army under his command, for the brilliant triumph at the battle of Buena Vista. Mr. Henley, a Locofoco member from Indiana, moved to amend the resolution by adding these words: "engaged, as the army was, in the defence of the rights and honor of the Nation." This amendment, Mr. Ashman, a Whig member, moved further to amend, by adding these words: "in a war unnecessarily and unconstitutionally begun by the President of the United States." On agreeing to this last amendment, the yeas and nays were ordered; and the vote being taken, it stood yeas 85 nays 81. So that the House of Representatives has decided that the War with Mexico was unnecessarily and unconstitutionally begun by the President of the United States! A pretty fair beginning for the Whigs of Congress. We breathe freer and deeper.

WITHDRAWAL OF OUR TROOPS.—In the House, on the 3d instant, Mr. Hudson of Massachusetts submitted a resolution instructing the committee on military af-

airs, to enquire into the expediency of requesting the President to withdraw the American troops to the East side of the Rio Grande, and to offer to the Mexicans terms of peace, without expecting any indemnity for the expenses of the war. The resolution was rejected by a vote of 137 Nays to 41 Yeas.

The Whigs of Congress.
The Whigs of Congress are united and harmonious, and will discharge their duty with a view to the best interests of the entire Nation. A correspondent of the Pa. Inquirer says the Whigs held a meeting on Monday night, "and although no precise policy was agreed upon, it is gratifying for me to state that entire harmony prevailed, and the most ultra evinced every desire to sacrifice their extreme opinions, and meet upon some common ground, which all could assume without doing violence to their private feelings. Another meeting will determine what this ground shall be; meanwhile, I will only add, that supplies will not be withheld, but the vast patronage which the war has thrown into the lap of the Administration, will hereafter be diverted from the Executive."

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.
Both branches of the Legislature are fully organized. The following are the gentlemen elected to the different offices.

SENATE.—Speaker—WM. WILLIAMSON, of Chester.

Chief Clerk—SAM'L W. PEARSON of Somerset. Assistant—JNO. M. SULLIVAN of Butler.

Transcribers—J. H. McCauley of Franklin, and Jas. D. Desmond of Philadelphia.

Sergeant-at-Arms—WM. EASTBURN of Monroe. Assistant—WM. P. BRADY of Clinton.

Door Keeper—J. W. COWELL of Bucks. Assistant—B. H. GODSHALK of Montgomery.

Messenger—PHILIP WEBER of Dauphin. All Whigs.

HOUSE.—Speaker—WM. F. PACKER, of Lycoming.

Chief Clerk—WM. JACK, of Westmoreland. Assistant—WM. S. PICKING.

Transcribers—JOHN MELOY, ALEX. S. BREWSTER, and J. ZEIGLER.

Sergeant-at-Arms—DANIEL McCLEARY. Door-Keeper—E. ZEIGLER. Messenger—L. FRANK. All Locofocos.

On Thursday last a number of messages from the Governor were read, relating among others, the following bills, passed at the last session:

A bill for the election of Prosecuting Attorneys by the people.

A bill to abolish the Mayor's Court of the City of Lancaster.

A supplement to the Act incorporating the Hazelton Coal Company.

A supplement to the act incorporating the Lancaster county Mutual Insurance company.

Mr. ESHLEMAN submitted a joint resolution, approbatory of the efforts of Pope Pius in behalf of universal liberty. The resolution is ably and eloquently written.

A message was received from the Governor, stating that the late injuries to the Public Improvements had required a loan of 50,000, which was advanced by several Banks; and recommending the passage of a law authorizing the payment of this loan.

A bill supplementary to the Act regulating lateral Railroads, passed last session, was returned by the Governor with his approval.

Mr. Sanderson, from Lebanon, has introduced a joint Resolution of thanks to Major General SCOTT, and his gallant army, for their brilliant achievements in Mexico.

The Standing Committees have been announced in both Houses. In the House, we observe that our Representative has been appointed to the honorable post of Chairman of the Committee on Estates and Escheats. This is truly quite a marked compliment to our member, coming as it does, from a democratic Speaker.

On Saturday morning last the House passed unanimously a Preamble and Resolutions introduced by Mr. BLAIR, in honor of the memory of the late Capt. Jas. Caldwell, and condoling with his family and friends in the severe loss which they have sustained by his fall.

HON. JAMES COOPER.—The Gettysburg Star states that letters from Mr. Cooper, dated Liverpool and London, in the beginning of December, announce his arrival in England, after a passage of 20 days. At the time of writing his last letter he was in good health, and designed starting for Italy in a few days.

The imports of Foreign Coal into the United States from the 1st of July, 1845, to the 30th June, were 148,021 tons.

Another Steamboat Explosion.
CINCINNATI, Jan. 7.

The steamer Sea Bird, from New Orleans, bound to St. Louis, and loaded with one thousand kegs of powder, took fire on Wednesday, while near Cape Girardeau. The fire soon communicated to the powder, and caused a tremendous explosion, which was heard a distance of forty miles. The boat was blown to atoms, but fortunately the passengers escaped before the explosion took place.

FOREIGN NEWS.
The Caledonia arrived at Boston on Wednesday last. The intelligence is somewhat encouraging. A better feeling was apparent in regard to breadstuffs—the money market was somewhat easier—no very important failures are announced—and the prospect was certainly more favorable.

The Corn Market particularly for the better descriptions of wheat and flour has firmly maintained our last quotations, with a slight upward tendency and a general improvement of tone. No material change can be observed in the price of Indian corn meal, and although the demand for Ireland has for some days been more than ordinarily inactive, an improved inquiry was met in our market yesterday at an advance of 1s. per quarter.

Flour was somewhat slow of sale, without a depression, but some qualities were rather brisker than usual. The character and prospects of the Grain market will doubtless be materially affected by the resumption of the sliding scale of duty on the first of March, of which notice has been given by the government. The duty will oscillate upon Wheat from 4 to 10s. per quarter; and upon Flour from 2s. to 6. per bbl, adjusting itself to the rise and fall of the market. Indian Corn, now free, will be subject to a duty of 1s. per quarter, and Meal to 6d. per bbl.

The condition of Ireland is somewhat improving. Father Matthew intends visiting this country in April.

Death of Capt. Taylor.
A letter from David Duff, now in Mexico, to a gentleman of this place, states that Capt. TAYLOR, of the Bedford company, died in Mexico on the 8th of December, after an illness of but two days.

Gen. Taylor has declined an invitation to visit Vicksburg, on account of the pressure of his private affairs; but that does not imply that he will not visit the North, as seems to be understood by some of our contemporaries.

A Shocking Murder.
The Louisville Journal says that "a few days since, at Mr. Matthew Ferguson's mill, on Bear-grass, at the edge of the city, Mr. Ferguson's second son, David, a youth about twenty years old, directed the sawyer, a negro man, named John, to do a certain piece of work. The negro refused and used insolent language. Young Ferguson undertook to compel him to obedience, whereupon the negro drew a knife and stabbed him to the heart. It appeared from a post mortem examination that there was a gash in the heart of an inch and a half.

The New Orleans ladies insisted upon kissing Gen. Taylor! He surrendered!

The Whigs of Mercer county have nominated Gen. SCOTT for the Presidency, and Judge McLEAN for the Vice Presidency.

Hon. Henry Clay has arrived in Washington.

APPOINTMENT BY THE GOVERNOR.—Dr. James Frew, of Millintown, to be an Associate Judge of Juniata county, in place of Hon. Daniel Christy, deceased.

PUBLIC MEETING—REMAINS OF CAPTAIN CALDWELL.

Pursuant to notice, a large and respectable meeting of the citizens of the borough of Huntingdon, took place at the house of George Jackson on Thursday evening last, to take measures to do honor to the remains of Capt. James Caldwell, when on motion, Capt. ALBEX. GWIN was called to the chair. Col. S. S. WILSON appointed Vice President, and Capt. Geo. W. SPENCER Secretary.

After the object of this meeting having been stated, the following committee was appointed to draft a preamble and resolutions, viz: Maj. T. P. CAMPBELL, Capt. Geo. W. SPENCER, James Clark, Col. D. BUOY, Col. Geo. Gwin, Casper Dull and Thos. S. McCahan.

The committee after retiring a few minutes for consultation, reported the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted.

WHEREAS, The remains of our distinguished and most lamented friend, Capt. James Caldwell has reached this place on their way to his former home to be interred: therefore

Resolved, That Capt. James Caldwell was a brave and gallant officer—one who was willing to risk everything in the defence of his country—competent to the discharge of every duty he might impose upon him, as was well attested in his intrepid conduct in the bloody battle fields through which he passed, and by surrendering up his life in her cause. In his fate she has sustained a heavy loss.

Resolved, That we sympathize with his many relations and friends in the bereavement that has fallen upon them in his death. But the poignancy of grief is still softened by the recollections of his many virtues while living and the glory that surrounds his name from the cause and manner in which he fell.

Resolved, That as a mark of regard for the deceased, and our appreciation of his distinguished services in defence of his country, the following gentlemen be appointed an escort by this meeting to accompany the remains to Mill Creek, viz:—Maj. T. P. Campbell, William B. Zeigler, C. A. Newingham, George Raymond, Jno. Scott, Thos. Burchinell, J. P. Dorsey, H. K. Neff, Alex. Port, Thos. S. McCahan, George Gwin, D. Buoy, Geo. Jackson, James Allison, J. E. Seeds, James Clark, Geo. W. Spenser, S. S. Wharton, J. N. Prowell, T. H. Gremer, John Beads Samuel Caldwell, A. P. Wilson, Alex. Gwin and Greenberry Dorsey.

DEMOCRATIC DOCTRINE.—The Washington Union gives us to understand that direct taxation is the true democratic doctrine.—Hear it:

"There can be no doubt that Direct Taxation is essentially Democratic, and has only to be brought fairly before the people to find favor with the majority."

The funeral of Capt. JAS. CALDWELL is to take place at Newton Hamilton to day.

A COMMON COLD AND COUGH.—It should be remembered that a cough is an evidence that some impurity is lodged in the lungs, which, if not speedily removed, will so irritate these delicate organs as sooner or later to bring on inflammation of the lungs—a form of disease which we all know is the high road to consumption.

Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills are a most delightful medicine for carrying off a cold, because they expel from the system all morbid and corrupt humors (the cause of every kind of disease) in an easy and natural manner. Four or five of Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills, taken every night on going to bed, will in a short time remove the most obstinate cold at the same time the digestive organs will be restored to a healthy tone, and the blood completely purified.

Beware of sugar coated counterfeit pills. The only original and genuine Indian Vegetable Pills have the signature of William Wright written with a pen on the top label of each box. None other is genuine and to counterfeit this is Forgery. The genuine for sale by

T. K. SIMONTON, Sole Agent for Huntingdon, Charles Porter, Alexandria; Blair & Robinson, Shade Gap; Blair & Co., Frankstown; Obison & Co., Obison; A. O. Brown, Shirleyburg; Hunter & Co., West Barre and Petersburg; Graff & Co., Manor Hill; D. S. Bell, M'Elroy's Fort; James Maguire, Salsburg; John W. Myton, Ennsville; George H. Steiner, Water Street; A. & W. Cresswell, Petersburg; Milliken & Kessler, Mill-creek; and wholesale and retail at the principal office, 169 Race street, Philadelphia.

From Maine to Mississippi, from Oregon to Florida, the wonderful effects of Wister's Balsam of Wild Cherry in curing all diseases of the lungs, are as familiar as household words. Where there is a constitutional predisposition to consumption, it keeps the insidious destroyer at bay, and we venture to affirm that no one ever died of that complaint, who had recourse to this remedy when the first symptoms of its approach appeared. Thousands who have sought another climate in the hopes of being relieved from B. onchitis and Consumption, and who have laid their bones in foreign land, with none but strangers to pay the last offices of respect, might now be living in health, encircled by friends and kindred, had they taken themselves to this infallible remedy, instead of going into voluntary exile. Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Bronchitis, Pleurisy, Sore Throat, Rheumatism, Croup; and all those diseases of the organs of respiration which invariably lead to death if neglected, can be removed by a few bottles of Wister's Balsam.

See Advertisement on fourth page.

MARRIED.
On Thursday, 30th ultimo, by the Rev. S. H. Reid, Mr. ADAM SLACK to Miss JANE CRAIG, of Franklin township.

VALUABLE FARM.
THE subscribers will sell at Public Sale on the premises on

Thursday, the 2nd of March next,

A farm containing about 249 acres of first rate wheat land. About 200 acres is cleared and in a good state of cultivation. The remainder is well timbered. The improvements are a well finished Bank Barn, 100 feet by 50 all complete with the necessary attachments; and a large DWELLING HOUSE, well finished throughout with all the necessary appointments, Wash and Spring House, &c., &c.

The farm is first quality of land well fenced and in a good state of cultivation. There is about 15 acres of Meadow. The most of the buildings are new and well finished. There is a spring of good water near the house, and numerous springs so distributed as to afford water in every field but one. A good orchard is thereon of choice fruit. The farm is well located in the centre of the valley of Shavers Creek, near to public roads, mills, &c., 7 miles above Petersburg where the Canal and railroad is now located.

The terms will be one third of the purchase money to be paid on 1st April next. The remainder in four equal annual payments with interest to be secured by the bond and mortgage of the purchaser. The greater part of the purchase money might be unpaid for years by paying the interest thereon, for the benefit of the widow and heirs of her age.

MARGARET NEWELL, Executrix.

WILLIAM NEWELL, Esq. of the Estate of Andrew Newell, dec'd. January 11, 1848.

FOR SALE.
A Lot of ground, with a two-story Frame Dwelling House, having three rooms and hall below, and four above, with a good cellar, extending underneath the whole house; and also a stable and oven erected thereon; situated on Tyrone street, in the town of Birmingham, Huntingdon county, and will be a desirable location for any person wishing to reside near the Central Railroad.

Any person wishing to purchase will please apply to John Owen, Esq., in Birmingham, or the subscriber, residing in Newry, Blair county.

Jan. 11, 1848—3m. SAMUEL HILE.

ESTRAY.
I AME to the residence of the subscriber, living near Salsburg, Barre township, a white and black spotted HELL, rising two years old. The owner is requested to come forward, prove property, pay charges and take him away; otherwise he will be disposed of as the law directs. Jan 11, 1848. JAMES GILLIAM.

Administrators' Notice.
Estate of James Walker, late of Dublin township, deceased.

LETTERS of Administration having been granted to the undersigned, on the estate of said deceased, all persons having claims against the same are requested to present them duly authenticated, for payment, and those knowing themselves indebted are requested to make immediate payment.

JOHN WITHEROW, Administrator.