The Huntingdon Journal.

"I SEE NO STAR ABOVE THE HORIZON, PROMISING LIGHT TO GUIDE US, BUT THE INTELLIGENT, PATRIOTIC, UNITED WHIG PARTY OF THE UNITED STATES."—[WEBSTER.

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Uncle Bernard's Story.

BY THE REV. DR. BETHUNE.

"Oh, Uncle Bernard," cried altogether a group of little people, "tell us a story!"

Uncle Bernard, a white-haired old man, whose chair had been drawn to a warm corner, for the winter was howling against the windows—looked up from his large print Bible, smiled fondly on their rosy faces: "A story! a story! let me read you one out of this good book."

"Oh, no!" says bold little Bob, as he caught the old man round the neck, "we know all the Bible stories; tell us a fairy tale!"

"Yes, yes, Uncle Bernard!" chirruped the rest, "a fairy tale, a fairy tale! you never told us a fairy tale."

"No, deary, I have never told you a fairy tale. Fairy tales are lies, and young folks like you should not love to hear lies, nor should old folks like me tell lies."

"Oh, but Uncle Bernard, we know that fairy tales ain't true, but it is such fun to hear them."

"Well, my little dears, I'll try and tell you a story that sounds like a fairy tale, and yet is all true. Sit down, and listen."

"Once upon a time, and a great while ago, there lived in a wide wood a wild man, and his name was Sthenos. His father and mother had been keepers of a lovely garden, where they dwelt in peace with our God; but he, very early in his childhood, had wandered off and lost himself among the shadows of the forest, where he soon forgot all that he knew. Not only his head and face, but also his whole body, was covered with long shaggy hair; his nails were like claws; and he could climb the trees, or swim in the water as easily as walk on the ground. Gigantic in height, his shoulders were broad, and his limbs sturdy. He could outrun the wildest deer, hit with a stone the flying bird, and kill with his knotty club the fiercest beasts. He ate only what he took in the chase, with some pleasant herbs, or fruits, or honey, which he found in the hollow trunks, and in the rocks; and he drank only from the springs, or the deep river which flowed through the valley. He slept in caves, or in the crotches of trees, lest the prowling beasts, should catch him unawares. Yet, savage as he was, he had a certain nobleness and rough grace of mien which distinguished him from the rough brutes around him; and made them acknowledge him as their lord. Thus he lived, lonely and happy, and, notwithstanding his strength, full of fears.

"One day, as he was pushing through the thicket to reach the river, he heard singing sweeter than any he had heard. He thought at first that it was a bird. But he knew the songs of all birds, and that this was not like any of them. He dashed on, and saw reclining on the bank of the river a creature so lovely that he stood still in wonder, trembling with a new feeling that shot like fire through his heart and joints. Her form—his woodman's eye saw at once that the delicate proportions were those of a female—was something like his own, but fair and elegant, while his was brown and shaggy. Around her waist was a loose white robe, and about her shoulders floated a scarf blue as the sky. While she sang she looked upward as though some one was hearing her, whom Sthenos could not see, and then she listened, as if to a voice he could not hear. Soon turning her eyes upon him, she smiled with ravishing sweetness, and beckoned him nearer: Awe-struck, but drawn irresistibly on, he fell at her feet, gazing at her beautiful face. She now spoke in accents of his early speech, which now came back to his understanding, and said:

"Sthenos, our good God, whom you have so long forgotten, has not forgotten you; but, pitying your loneliness and misery, has sent me to live with you and be your friend. Already I love you, and you must take me to your heart, and give me your love."

"As she spoke, she bent down and wiped his forehead, from which she had parted his matted locks, looking with her clear blue eyes into his, until his whole being seemed drawn out to her, and he laid her head, with its bright golden curls, on his broad breast, and felt an ecstacy of inexpressible happiness."

"And now that I am to dwell with you, dear Sthenos, lead me to your home."

"Home!" replied he, "I know not what you mean!"

"Where do you rest after the chase, or amid darkness? Where do you eat your food, where do you most delight to be? That is home."

"I have no home. All places in the forest are alike to me. Where weariness or night comes upon me, there I lie down; when I have killed the deer, then I eat. I have never thought of a home."

"Come, then, said she, sweetly, let us seek a spot where we will make a home for ourselves," and putting her slender hand in his, she led him until they came to a fountain gushing out from under a rock, before which a sunny meadow spread itself out towards the southwest, blooming with hare-bells, and daisy-cups, and pansies, and many more wild flowers. "Is it not charming?" said she, "the spring shall give us water, and the rock guard us from the fierce north wind, and we can look upon the sunlight and shadows, as they float together over the green grass and the flowers, that spring up through the verdure."

Sthenos smiled, and, though he could not understand her meaning, he felt a charm of Nature he had never before known.

"Now," said she, "the sun, though its light be pleasant, looks down too hotly upon us; and when the night comes, the dews will fall and chill us. Go, break off boughs from the trees, and strip the broad bark from the decayed branches." This was an easy task for the vigorous man; and, in the meantime, she had gathered heaps of dry mosses, and the spicy shoots from the hemlocks, and spread deep over the leaf-covered ground. Then, leaning the thick boughs against each other, and laying, by her directions, the curved bark overlapping in successive and continuous layers, upon them, Sthenos saw as his work, a rude, but safe hut, and said, "This shall be our home, I go for our evening meal;" and dashed into the forest. He soon returned with wood pigeons and a young fawn, which he had killed, casting them at the feet of his gentle wife, who had already arranged, in leafy cups, the berries which she had gathered from the meadow; and Sthenos beheld wild flowers, mingled with long, trailing, delicate vines, adorning the entrance to their home.

The simple meal, soon prepared by her skillful hands, he thought more savory than he had ever had, but, before she suffered him to partake, she pointed upward, and with clasped hands sang praise to our good God, the giver. An hour of delicate friendship stole away, as, hand in hand, they looked in each other's eyes—thoughts he knew not how to speak, and she needed no words to utter. Then another hymn to our good God, the sleepless preserver, she warbled from her lips of gurgling melody, and the pair sank to rest.

Thus sped on day after day, and night after night. Gradually Sthenos lost his fierceness, save in the struggle of the chase. She had fashioned for him soft garments out of fawn skins and feathers, which he now wore, less for need than to please his skilful friend. His shaggy hair was smoothed into curling grace; the hut constantly received new conveniences and ornaments from his strong or cunning hand, and happy was he, after his toils in the forest, to return, bearing a rich honey-comb, or leading a goat with full udders to his home—dear, because hers.

On waking, one dewy morning, he looked fondly in her loving face, beaming with tender, holy thoughts, and said: "You call me Sthenos but have never told the name by which I am to call you, my dearest."

"You have just pronounced the name I love best, except when you call me your wife and your friend. I have had several names in the land whence I came to be near you, but that by which our good God wished you to know me is Enthymia, to your side; and whatever love can do, I will gladly perform. With your strength and my affectionate zeal, and the blessing of our good God, we shall be happy as we may in this wide world wood; but the good God has promised me, that when you shall have learned to sing and pray with me, that our two beings shall be blended into one, and we shall leave the forest, to go and dwell in a garden, with our good God, far more beautiful than the one from which you strayed a long while ago."

The children were mute in wonder and sadness, when suddenly the chamber was filled with ravishing light and delicious odours, and three radiant angels hovered over the bed; and the children could see far up into the sky, and saw a glorious being under the Tree of Life, before the throne of God; and in the smiling countenance of the glorious being they recognized, strangely but sweetly mingled, the love of both father and mother. And one of the angels said (he was the tallest of the three) "I pointed out the way to them, and encouraged them to strive to reach the garden."

"And I," said the second, on whose bosom shone a gem like a golden anchor, "bore them up on my wings."

"And I," joyfully exclaimed the third, who had eyes like the first spring violets washed with rain, "have made them both one forever."

Then turning to her sister angels, she said: "Your tasks for them are over; but I go to fill their united beings with immortal happiness!"

"Ah, Uncle Bernard," cried Gertrude, that is better than a fairy tale, but what queer names—Sthenos and Enthymia—what do they mean?"

"I made them out of the Greek," answered the old man, "and by Sthenos, I mean man left to himself, when he would be a mere savage; and by Enthymia, I mean wisdom sent to him by our good God, to teach him how to live on earth, and prepare for heaven. When man is transformed to holy wisdom, and uses his strength for wise ends, he becomes all good, and God takes him up to the second Paradise."

"Yes," says little Charley, "and the angel with the anchor is Hope."

"And the tallest angel is Faith," adds Robert, "for faith gives pious people courage."

"And the gentle, blue-eyed one, must be Love, for Love lives forever," whispers Gertrude in Uncle Bernard's ear.

"Bless you, dear child, you look like her!" whispers back Uncle Bernard.

☞ Printers make curious mistakes sometimes. An editor out west recently quoted the line—

"Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned."

But in setting it up, the s was accidentally left out, which made it read—

"Hell hath no fury like a woman CORNED!"

But the error was not a mistake, after all.

☞ Why must your nose necessarily be in the middle of your face? Because it is the scenter.

From the Charlestown Courier, Jan. 21.

The Mexican Treaty.

Our distinguished and successful Minister to Mexico, arrived in this City from the Mexican Capital, via New Orleans and the South Carolina Railroad, on Tuesday last, and immediately went to his plantation, whence he returned on Thursday last, and is now at his residence in our City. He we will leave on Monday next for Washington, to report to our government the results of his eminently successful mission and receive instructions for the future. We had the high gratification of an interview with him last evening, and of congratulating him on the great advantages he has secured for his country, and the honor he has won for himself. He is in fine spirits and delighted with Mexico and its climate, ascribing to his residence there his highly improved health and looks, and, indeed, a very large share of rejuvenescence.

On his arrival in Mexico he adopted no diplomatic costume, but continued to wear the plain dress of an American gentleman, and that, he says; sufficiently designated him, and secured him all due recognition and consideration as the American Minister; and, in compliment to him, Santa Anna doffed his own gorgeous apparel, and received him in a plain, but favorite, dress of brown. When Gen. Gadsden reached Mexico, Santa Anna claimed an indemnity of $35,000,000, under the 11th article of the treaty of Guadalupe, relative to Indian incursions and depredations on Mexican territory, and insisted on the Bartlett boundary line, which excluded us from the Mesilla Valley. Gen Gadsden at once boldly and firmly rejected the idea of indemnity altogether. He insisted on the Graham line, which gives us the Mesilla Valley, covering an area of some 1,300,000 acres) as the true boundary; and intimated that Gen. Garland was on the march to assert our claim to the Graham line, by taking possession of the disputed territory, and proposed a settlement of all difficulties on an entirely new basis of negotiation.

Finding the thing feasible, he immediately despatched an express to prevent the further advance of Gen. Garland; and the following were the ultimate results of his able and admirable diplomacy. He accomplished a treaty, in which Mexico surrenders all claims for indemnity under the 11th article of the treaty of Guadalupe, and yields us the Mesilla Valley, and, in addition thereto, cedes to us, for the sum of twenty millions of dollars, an immense region, embracing a part of Chihuahua, and about one-third of Sonora, including the gold region, (believed to be one of the richest in the world,) covering in all about thirty-nine millions of acres, and giving us a new boundary, strong in natural defences, and running to or near the head of the Gulf of California.

This cession embraces too the Garay route of the Pacific railway, through the valley of the Gila, (the very route designated by Gen Gadsden himself, at the Memphis Convention, of which he was a member,) of which Charleston is the Atlantic and San Diego the Pacific termini, with Memphis as the intermediate station. Of the $20,000,000 to be paid by us for this vast and valuable accession of territory, we are to reserve $5,000,000 with which to extinguish all claims of our citizens on Mexico, including those under the Garay grant. The peninsula of California is not included in the cession, but even that would probably have been obtained by farther negotiation, had not the insane expedition of Walker caused Santa Anna to set his face resolutely against it. The new domain acquired, it is suggested, to form into a territory (and hereafter into one or more States) by the name of Aresonia, the first Governor of which ought to be a South Carolinian, as a tribute due to South Carolina diplomacy.

Santa Anna has already finally ratified the treaty on the part of Mexico, and it only remains for us to exchange ratifications with the Mexican Minister at Washington to conclude the affair. On the exchange of ratifications, $3,000,000 are to be paid down, in cash, to Mexico.

We doubt not that our citizens will take an early opportunity; on his return from Washington, to testify to Gen. Gadsden their high sense of his masterly diplomacy and patriotic services equally honorable to himself and his native City and State.

Whether Gen. Gadsden will close his mission with his present laurels, or return to Mexico as resident Minister, will depend on the pleasure of the government. The mission was conferred on him unsought, and his continuance in it will be equally unsolicited, although it will not be withheld if deemed for the interest of his Country.

[From the Charleston Mercury. Jan. 21.]

We copy below, from the Mobile Register, an abstract of the treaty just negotiated by our Minister, Gen. Gadsden. We have reason to believe that the statements of the Register are entirely reliable with regard to the provisions of this treaty.

[From the Mobile Register.]

Gen. Gadsden, the American Minister to Mexico, passed through this city yesterday *en route* for Washington, being the bearer of an important treaty which he has negotiated with the government to which he is accredited.

The salient points of the treaty are:—First, the establishment of a good boundary line; second, the abrogation of that clause of the treaty of Guadalupe that binds the United States government to the costly and almost impossible obligation to protect the Mexican frontier from Indian incursions; third, the recognition of the Sloo grant across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec; and, fourth, the indemnification of the Garay grantees.

The boundary line, which gives the United States a strip of territory sufficient to form a new State, is as follows:—Draw a line on the map from a point two miles north of El Paso, in a south-westerly direction, to the intersecting point of the 111th degree of longitude and the 31st degree of latitude; thence a west by north course to a point two miles above the head of the Bay of California; and the new boundary line will be exhibited proximate to the treaty stipulation. It gives to the United States part of the State of Sonora. This country is said to abound in mineral wealth, and its soil is rich in agricultural resources.

By the provisions of the treaty rescinding the clause of the treaty of Guadalupe, touching frontier protection from the Indian tribes, it will hereafter be the duty of each government to defend its own frontier, and drive the Indians to their strongholds in the interior.

In consideration of these grants and cessions the United States are to pay to Mexico $20,000,000. Of this sum $3,000,000 are to be passed as soon as the treaty is ratified, and $5,000,000 are to be withheld by the United States until the Garay grantees are indemnified.

"Aresonia," will probably be the name given to the new territory and future State; the name being derived from the rich mineral mines embraced within it.

Model Speeches.

A Bridegroom's Speech.—"The Health of the Bridegroom and Bride."

MY FRIENDS: Of myself at this most mystic hour I will say nothing. No; but I thank you for my wife. Wife! Blissful monosyllable!—A blended harmony of all earth's music! Wife! that calls up, as with an enchanter's wand, the homestead and the hearth, the kettle singing, rejoicingly singing, on the bar, and the cat sleeping, profoundly sleeping, on the rug; a word that intensifies so many meanings! The call of butcher and baker and milk below, and a quarter's rent, and water-rate, and the Queen's taxes. Ladies and gentlemen, when I only glance at the wedding-ring on my wife's finger—that ring and that finger which it has been the summit of my bliss this morning to bring together; when I look upon that simple bit of golden wire, it seems to me that, in the words of the bard of Avon, "I have put a girdle round about the world;" a world of beauty and truth, of constancy and love. When I look at that ring—and how can I help looking at it?—does not its brightness fascinate and chain me? Yes, I will repeat it—I am proud to repeat—chain me? When I look at that ring am I not reminded of the circle of domestic duties, a circle even and complete and without a flaw; a circle harmonious with golden utterance; a circle of purity without alloy; a never-ending still beginning round of earthly happiness? My friends, when the honey-moon is over—not that it ever will be over with my own—own—[*here give the bride's name, Arabella or Dorcas, as the name may be*]—and myself, (for we propose to enjoy twelve honey-moons every year of our lives;) when I enter my house—and here let us return due thanks to my honored father-in-law who has furnished that unpretending mansion with equal taste and liberality, though he will forgive me in this confiding hour, when the heart swells and the tongue will speak, if I jocosely observe to him that the house has a wine cellar and that his taste in tawny port is unexceptionable; when, I say, I enter my house, and for the first time sinking in my arm-chair, place my slippered feet upon my rug—that rug worked by certain hands with hear's-ease and roses—I shall say, to myself, here is my paradise and here, [*here look at the bride very passionately,*] my Eve.

On Receiving a Piece of Plate.

GENTLEMEN: In having filled the office of—[*here put in the office, whether that of Chancellor of the Exchequer, Churchwarden, or Treasurer to a Cricket Club*] I assure you I have had but one object, your interest. That object, I fearlessly assert, has never ceased to accompany me. It has gone to bed with me; it has slept with me; it has got up with me; it has shaved with me. Your interest, gentlemen, has been the polar star to my eye, the staff to my hand, and the roses to my feet. Do I say this to make any claim upon your gratitude? No, gentlemen, in giving utterance to these solemn and profound emotions—for they are solemn, since they are not often evoked but upon serious occasions like the present; they are profound, for they come from the very bottomest bottom of my heart—(gentlemen, it is sometimes the allowed privilege of deep feeling to violate grammar—a privilege that my impulsive soul must lay claim to at this moment)—in giving utterance to this, and much more than this, much more easily conceived than spoken, I merely state that in fulfiling your service I have fulfilled my own personal pleasure! I have sought no other reward; I expected none; I wished for none. Nevertheless, gentlemen, when I look upon the splendid candelabra before me—a candelabra of fourteen branches—I beg to assure you that I shall again and again, in the deep midnight, contemplate the fourteen wax candles that will be continually burning therein only as so many lights to higher exertion; as so many vivifying suns kindling and strengthening me in your service.

[If the piece of plate should be a snuff-box, say: And, gentlemen, whenever I open this box, whenever my finger and thumb shall take from within a restorative pinch, and taken, when my finger and thumb shall fillip off the particles that may adhere, I shall moralize upon those particles, and think all reward but dust, but that reward, your friendship, your support.]

[If the token presented be a watch, say: And never, gentlemen, shall I hear it tick, but my heart will pulsate in unison with its sound; never will it strike the time, but my fancy will, with backward flight, return to the present moment, the happiest, proudest moment of my life.]

[Should the speaker be a married man, and should a silver tea-pot be also presented to his wife, he may say: It is said, ladies and gentlemen, that a man must not praise himself. Yet how is it possible to avoid such eulogy when called upon to speak of his wife, who is of himself, the dearest and most precious part of his existence. Gentlemen, I thank you for Mrs. ——. You have inscribed some of her virtues on that silver tea-pot; I fearlessly say some of them, gentlemen, for I do assure you—though do not misinterpret such assurance—it would take an exceedingly large silver tea-board to boot to bear even in short-hand a notice of the qualities that, like the flowers upon the satin gown in which she appears before you on this happy occasion, cover and adorn her. Ladies and gentlemen, whilst thanking you for this teapot, permit me to say that you could not have chosen a more appropriate present for our domestic hearth. What the tripod was to the ancient priestess, the tea-pot (with considerable improvement) is to the English housewife. If it does not inspire her with prophecy, it does much better; it fills her with gentleness and good-humor, and makes her cheerful in bestowing cups of cheerfulness upon others. Gentlemen, it is said by Arabian writers that Solomon's genii were confined in kettles; then allow me to say they must have been tea-kettles; for from them, ministered by women, men drink quietude, refreshing calmness, and domestic wisdom.]

We could add plenty of other samples, but feel assured that, with only a tolerable memory and presence of mind excercised at some half-dozen tables, the speaker may adapt the above sentences to almost any subject, melting them like broken glass and blowing them again into different subjects.—*London Punch.*

The Means of Grace.

God has placed us in this world with the mysterious gifts of LIFE, which in a wonderful manner, and to a certain degree, He has entrusted to our keeping. For this purpose that is for sustaining life, He has given us certain MEANS which we must make use of; among the chiefest of which are—pure air, good ventilation, regular exercise, warm clothing, and wholesome food. These all serve, in their several ways, to keep us in health. They do not constitute health, nor necessarily ensure it, but health cannot be enjoyed without them.—They may therefore rightly be called "MEANS OF HEALTH."

In addition to this bodily life, God has given us a still more wonderful and mysterious life, namely: THE LIFE OF THE SOUL. This life, also, in a certain sense, and to an awful degree, He has entrusted to our care, to nourish and to keep. Neither has he, in this instance, left us unprovided with *means* for the performance of this great charge. These means are rightly "MEANS OF GRACE," that is, means whereby we attain grace, or spiritual strength. Among the chiefest of these are—prayer, public, family, and private—reading God's word, hearing the word, and receiving Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. And as we cannot neglect the means of health without injury to the body, so we cannot neglect the means of grace without injury to the soul. We know by daily experience, that we may eat wholesome food, but if we walk about unclothed, the food will do us no good—our body will not be kept in health; so it is evident that it will be to little purpose that we clothe ourselves warmly, if we refuse to eat. No means of health can be neglected without bringing its consequent punishment on the body. And we may be sure, that to every means vouchsafed, God has attached a peculiar blessing.

Just so it is with the "means of grace."—Each has its peculiar work of strengthening, or refreshing, guiding, or helping. It is wrong, therefore, to suppose that our souls' health can prosper, where one of these is knowingly omitted, and it is presumptuous in us to choose which is most conducive to our souls' prosperity. Each and all are given to us by God; each and all, therefore, are important and useful.—And we cannot wonder that the soul of that man does not prosper, who (though he reads his Bible ever so diligently) refuses to worship in God's house with his brethren. Neither are we surprized at all the coldness of that man's religion who, though he prays and reads, absents himself from the table of the Lord; nor at the unstable nature of that man's faith, who attends (it may be) the public means, but forgets to worship in private or with his family.

Reader! whoever you may be, let me earnestly desire you to think over this seriously as it regards yourself. Think what would become of the body if you were to neglect to feed it, or clothe it, or to give it fresh air and exercise. Without each of these, would it not gradually sicken, become unhealthy, pine away, and *die?* Think, then, also, what will become of your soul if you neglect to pray, to read God's Word, to hear it preached, or receive food for it at the Lord's table. Is it not natural to suppose that it will also die?

But ah! what is meant by the death of a soul—the "second death," the "worm that dieth not," the "unquenchable fire?" ask of him who, after his body had been buried with funeral pomp, entreated that a messenger might be sent to his brethren, "lest they also should come into that place of torment." And what is that life, which, begun and nourished here, shall expand into satisfaction and happiness, and bliss of a never ending existence? They alone will be able to tell, who, "when Christ who is their life shall appear, will appear with Him in glory."

A Humbug of Society.

Poets may write it up, moralists may preach it, and editors may prate about the elevating influence of education and accomplishment upon females; but practically it isn't worth a straw. Mary may be a good scholar—paint, draw, dance, sing and play, but so long as her father and mother peddle pop-beer and gingerbread, Mary cannot be more than third-rate, in the estimation of society at large, or rather we may say among the best people—people who handle moral questions as you would a decayed cat, with a pair of tongs. Again it is said to be an excellent thing to earn one's bread, to be independent in so far as the daily wants of a healthy body are concerned. But just you let a young lady go to work, to retrieve a lost fortune, in a Tailor's shop, Millinery establishment, or Printing office, and see how many noses are turned up by her late associates, and by many, too, who daily hang on to the skirts of a rich uncle, too proud to work.

And again, you see how sudden the change from the respectable work-woman to the snob, when some break of fortune brings to a serving girl a fashionable home. How forgetful!

Well, well—it is human nature we suppose to be proud, and however ridiculous it appears it's no use arguing or sneering against it. But it does make one laugh occasionally to see people straighten up so suddenly and so smart.

At Home in the Evening.

One of the grossest neglects of youth, producing incalculable mischief and ruin, is the spending of his evenings. Darkness is temptation to misconduct; suffering the youth to be out, when the light of day does not restrain them from misconduct, is training them to it. We have already an abundant harvest of this seeding. Riots, mobs, crimes, giving fearful foreboding, are the results of youth becoming fit agents of outrage by running, uncared for, in the evenings. What we see in these respects is deplorable enough—but what is this compared with what we do not see—multitudes making themselves miserable and noxious to the world, and what is that to come to! Parents should look at the truth, that pleasures and recreations are often dearly purchased—the price of their own impaired comfort, and the blighted prospect of their offspring. It must be obvious that in this matter there can be no interior of all evening recreation and employment, yet their is an evil not only destructive to youth, but planting thorns in many paths, and covering many lives with desolation. The information demanded must proceed from judgment and conscience—must be enlightened. Heads of families must learn that the place on earth best adapted to be a blessing, is home; and by example and wholesome restraint they must teach this truth to all under them.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

Monday, Jan. 30.

The Speaker laid before the Senate a communication from the Canal Commissioners in reply to the resolution of the Senate calling for information in relation to alledged frauds in the Collector's office at Philadelphia. The Communication states that the investigation is in progress, but they are not prepared to report in full. The losses thus far discovered are only to the amount of a few hundred dollars.

A few petitions on subjects heretofore mentioned were presented; and a few bills reported from standing Committee.

The nomination of Rev. Dr. DeWitt as State Librarian, was reported from the select Committee on the subject, and immediately taken up in Executive session, and confirmed unanimously—yeas 24, nays 0.

The same Committee also reported nominations of Trustees of the Asylum for the Insane poor.

The nomination of Dr. Geo. Dock and Dr. Mercer Brown to supply vacancies in the Board, were confirmed unanimously—yeas 28, nays, 0.

The nomination of Dr. Betton, A. J. Jones, Esq., and Hon. A. G. Hiester were considered, but some objections to the confirmation of Mr. Jones and Mr. Hiester being made, the question was postponed for the present, for the purpose of enabling some Senators to elicit information.

Mr. Hendricks, Banks, reported the Supplement to the Act regulating Banks.

Mr. Darlington called up the bill to incorporate the Columbia and Maryland Line Railroad Company. Passed final reading.

The bill to regulate the compensation of County Treasurers for certain services to the Commonwealth was taken up, passed Committee and was then laid over.

The bill to divorce Thomas French and his wife was again referred to the Judiciary Committee, with instructions to report it back by Monday next. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Mesick.

The Speaker laid before the House a statement from the State Treasurer and Auditor General relative to the expenses on the public works, which was read, and 5000 in English and 2000 in German ordered to be printed.

Mr. Wright, presented resolutions from the Borough of Frankford in favor of the consolidation of the City and County Districts of Philadelphia; read and laid on the table.

Mr. Eldred moved a resolution to raise a special Committee to report on the propriety and necessity, and as to the time of presenting before the House, a law relating to the subject.

Messrs. Carlisle, Fletcher and Moore, presented remonstrances against the consolidation of the City and County Districts.

The House then took up the bill to consolidate the County and City Districts of Philadelphia on second reading.

Mr. Moore stated at length his objections to the bill. He was opposed to it on the general ground that no permanent or substantial good would be effected by the passage of the law.—All the benefits claimed for it by its friends could be reached as well if the law relating to the municipal corporations now in existence were enforced as they could be by this bill.—He considered this a mania similar to the water lot city speculations, and *morus multicaulus* operations of a former day. He thought it was designed as a work of speculation altogether, and urged that the Legislature should protect the masses from the avaricious grasp of speculation. They had suffered long enough. The passage of this bill would further fix on them the evils and woes of abject poverty.—High taxes, high rents, and general corruption would become the order of the day. He moved the indefinite postponement of the bill. Not agreed to.

Mr. Carlisle said he represented a portion of the County which was agricultural in its character, and that he was elected without any pledges. He considered the question at issue as no humbug. It was one in which the whole population of the City and County of Philadelphia were interested. A change in the municipal arrangements of the county were demand. The present mode of collecting taxes was a great and growing evil, which this bill was calculated to remedy. The fire department also required a change, which would be effected by this bill. The murders, riots and devastation which now pervaded the operations of that department would be put an end to, and the public good demanded it. All parties of the City and County demanded it. Great speculations were now going on by those who called themselves reformers, which ought to be now and at once stopped by the passage of this bill.

Mr. Hurtt said this was a subject of great importance, and purely of local character, prepared by great and good men. The people of his district were in favor of it, and he felt himself in duty bound to sustain it.

The first section of the bill was then agreed to, yeas 73, nays 4.

The second section being under consideration, Mr. Hart said that there were some alterations which in justice ought to be made, and which he had promised to attempt to have done, but owing to the tremendous pressure from the outside he had concluded to forego it, that the bill might pass speedily and put a stop to immense speculations and frauds which were now going on in the City and County.

The section was then agreed to.

The remaining sections of the bill being under consideration, Mr. Ziegler offered a proviso that nothing in the bill should be so as to prevent the city from subscribing stock to the North Western Rail Road Company.

Mr. Patterson opposed the amendment, and all others which should interfere with the agreement made between the members of the city and county; but would agree that the matter should be left to the majority.

Mr. Stewart advocated the amendment offered by Mr. Ziegler. He hoped the proviso offered would be adopted by the House. It was important to the interests of the Western portion of the State.

Mr. M'Combs thought that as the interests of the State were intimately concerned in this bill, it becomes her representatives to act cautiously and with prudence in passing any law which interfered therewith.

Mr. McConnell rose and said that he hoped the amendment of the gentleman from Butler would prevail. The constituency which he represented were deeply interested in the completion of the North Western railroad. Indiana county, in a spirit of liberality, had made a subscription of fifty thousand dollars to the road. They had made this subscription, relying on the good faith of Philadelphia city to make the subscription authorized by the last session of the Legislature. This amendment is nothing more than on extension of that authority to the city. The section, without this amendment, would prohibit subscription to any railroad, and thus virtually, by an act of the Legislature, prevent the city of Philadelphia from carrying out in good faith what she is morally bound to do.

Mr. Strong was in favor of the amendment offered by Mr. Zeigler, although not opposed to the suggestion of Mr. Patterson, except that adopting his suggestion would delay action by the city councils, which was speedily needed for the completion of the North Western railroad.

Mr. Wright regretted that the amendment had been offered. He was opposed to it. He thought it would have the tendency to prevent the passage of the bill.

Mr. Carlisle opposed the amendment. He did not think proper that exactions such as it contemplated should be countenanced.

Mr. Zeigler followed in defence of the amendment offered by him. His object was to protect as well as he could the interests of the North Western railroad company, and that if it was not now protected in this bill, future action would be so uncertain and problematical as to amount, perhaps to an abandonment of the work.

The debate was further continued by Mr. Hart in favor, and Mr. Hillier in opposition.

The question was then taken on the amendment, and it was disagreed to.

YEAS.—Messrs. Abraham, Barton, Bush, Byerly, Chamberlin, Collins, Cummins, Daugherty, Ellis, Fletcher, Foster, Gray, Gwin, Hamilton, Hart, Herr, Heistand, Hills, Hipple, Horn, Hummel, Hunsecker, Hurtt, Jackman, Linn, Magee, Maguire, McCombs, McConnel, Miller, Muse, Putney, Rawlins, Scott, Sidle, Simonton, Stewart, Stockdale, Strong, Wicklein and Zetgler.—41.

NAYS.—Messrs. Adams, Atherton, Baldwin, Ball, Beans, Beck, Beyer, Bigham, Boyd, Caldwell, Calvin, Carlisle, Cook, Crane, Davis, Deegan, DeFrance, Dunning, Edinger, Fry, Gallentine, Hillier, Hunter, Knight, Laury, Lowry, Easnderfield, M'Kee, Montgomery, Moore, Moser, Palmer, Parke, Parmlee, Patterson, Roberts, Sallade, Shenk, Smith, (Crawford) Smith, (Berks) Struthers, Wheeler, Wright, Chase, *Speaker.*—45.

So the question was determined in the negative.

The Section was then agreed to; yeas 58, nays 24.

The yeas and nays were required by Mr. —— and Mr. ———, and are as follows, viz:

YEAS.—Messrs. Adams, Atherton, Baldwin, Ball, Beans, Beck, Beyer, Bigham, Boyd, Byerly, Caldwell, Calvin, Carlisle, Collins, Davis, Deegan, DeFrance, Dunning, Eckert, Edinger, Eldred, Foster, Fry, Gallentine, Gilmore, Hillier, Hipple, Hunsecker, Hunter Hurtt, Jackman, Kilgore, Knight, Laury, (Lehigh.) Lowrey, (Tioga,) Mandersfield, M'Kee, Miller, Montgomery, Moser, Palmer, Parke, Parmlee, Passmore, Patterson, Porter, Poulson, Roberts, Sallade, Scott, Shenk, Sidle, Smith, (Berks) Smith, (Crawford.) Stockdale, Struthers, Wheeler, Wright and Chase, *Speaker.*—58.

NAYS.—Abraham, Barton, Bush, Chamberlin, Crane, Cummins, Gray, Gwin, Hiestand, Hills, Horn, Hummel, Magee, Maguire, Moore, Muse, Putney, Rawlins, Simonton, Wicklein and Zeigler.—24.

So the question was determined in the affirmative.

Pending further discussion on the bill, the House adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The House again resumed the consideration of the consolidation bill. The remaining sections were read, debated, and the bill passed finally—Yeas 77, nays 3.

SENATE.

Tuesday, Jan. 31.

The Senate, after some little unimportant business, proceeded to the consideration of the amendments made by the House to the bill consolidating the several municipal governments of the County of Philadelphia into the City.

The amendments were severally discussed and all concurred in.

The bill therefore, goes to the Governor.

Mr. Goodwin read in place a bill to incorporate the Board of Directors of the Fire Department of Philadelphia.

Mr. Foulkrod read in place a bill to authorize the Commissioners of the district of Spring Garden, to subscribe to the stock of the Hempfield Railroad Company.

Several local bills were considered and passed.

The Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Quite a number of bills of a purely local character were introduced.

Mr. Wright read in place a bill to incorporate the North Delarwe Railroad Company.

Mr. Manderfield read in place a bill to incorporate the Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Fire Department.

The following bills, with a number of others, were taken up and passed finally:—

The bill to incorporate the Kensington Fire Marine Insurace Company.

To incorporate the Excelsior Hook and Ladder Company, of Philadelphia.

To incorporate the Frankford and Darby Creek Meadows Company.

To incorporate the Commonwealth Instrance Company.

To incorporate the Dime Savings Bank of Philadelphia.

To extend the charter of the North American Coal Company.

The House then adjourned.