to every part of the ball. Thus the earth attracts all objects brought within its sphere of attraction, and it is this attraction which imparts what is called *weight* to bodies.

Astonishingly great as the earth appears, when viewed correctly and in comparison with objects upon its surface, it can, however, be made to appear, that, when compared to the *universe*, it is but a mere atom of the creation. It might seem to the superficial observer, and no doubt is believed by many, that the sun, moon and stars were created merely to gratify the heavens, to answer the purpose of giving light to this earth; and that their magnitude, compared to the size of the globe, is very inconsiderable. The science of *Astronomy*, however, has long ago unfolded the true relation which exists between the earth and the heavenly bodies. This science has demonstrated to us, that the sun alone contains 1,300,000 times as much matter as the earth—that he is the centre of a great system of worlds, of which the earth, which we inhabit, is *one*—that the earth and the other planets with which it is associated, revolve around the sun at regular intervals, whilst the sun itself revels in space, comparatively, in a state of rest.

This system, of which our sun is the centre, and this earth a member, consists of the sun, several comets, and eleven planets—the latter attended by 18 moons, of which our earth knows. Proceed from the sun, the great dispenser of light and heat to the system, the first planet is *Mercury*, whose distance from the sun is 37,000,000 and diameter 2,200 miles; next *Venus*, whose distance from the sun is 68,000,000 and diameter 7,700 miles; *Earth*, whose distance from the sun is 95,000,000 and diameter 8,000 miles; *Mars*, whose distance from the sun is 145,000,000 and diameter 4,200 miles. And thus we might enumerate the planets Ceres, Pallas, Juno, Vesta, *Jupiter*, with four moons and his belts; *Saturn*, with his vast ring and seven moons; and last, but not *Herschel*, with his six moons, and give you their respective distances from the sun, their magnitudes, their revolution and their relative situations in the system—for all of them have been accurately ascertained.

The mass of matter constituting the planets is nearly as 2,500 times as much as is contained in our earth; which added to that of the sun, remains in the almost incredible aggregate of 1,302,500 times as much matter as is contained in our globe. Vast, however, as the solar system appears, when compared with the earth, it is but *a solitary one* out of many millions of such systems—for the fixed stars are now known to be centres of *other* systems, as the sun is to that of which our earth forms a part. How infinitely small, then, is this earth, viewed in this connection, which to us seems so stupendous, when measured in a scale of comparison such as we use!

Some, no doubt, feel disposed to ask, *how* this knowledge of the motions, size and distances of the heavenly bodies is obtained, and how these comparisons are so confidently made? We have no hesitation in saying, that we believe that a great majority of mankind look upon such statements, as conjectural and uncertain. The erroneous impressions which they entertain, might be easily removed by an examination of the subject, accessible to every one; and we are happy in the opportunity offered us, upon this occasion, of disabusing the minds of any that may be here present. In doing this, we do not deem it necessary to lead you through the intricate mazes of calculation renered so by the mathematician; but, we trust, that we will be able to appeal to circumstances, which every one can understand, which will convince all of the accuracy of Astronomical knowledge.

1. The invention of the Telescope has increased the natural power of vision to a wonderful extent. Much of the universe may be observed with the naked eye, but by the assistance of the telescope our prospect is extended, and enlarged far beyond any thing we could conceive of, unaided by this instrument. The telescope of the eminent Dr. Herschell, magnified 6,000 times—*i. e.* an object 6,000 miles distant, by this instrument was made to appear as if but one mile distant to the naked eye. It must be admitted, that by the aid of such instruments, astronomers can, with surprising accuracy, ascertain the motions, relative situations, &c. of the various bodies which are found in the vast immensity of space.

2. It is a fact which may be known to every member of this Lyceum, that by the simple rules of plain trigonometry, which are taught in some of our *common schools*, the distance of any object, in sight, may be ascertained without actual measurement—so also the height of an object, whether it be the spire of a steeple, or top of a mountain. It is well known, too, that surveyors can compute the number of acres in a plat of land, of which all the parts are visible, which may be inaccessible and at a distance from them. Now it is very evident, that in order to ascertain the distances and magnitude of the heavenly bodies, an extended application of the same principles will lead to results equally certain and satisfactory. But these are not relied upon alone by astronomers—various methods of computation obtain, and it is from the combined evidence furnished by *all* the different methods, and from observations taken from every quarter of the globe, that the distance, magnitude and motions of the different members of the solar system are so accurately and confidently declared—but

3. If any should yet hesitate upon this subject, we would propose for their consideration, the certainty of astronomical calculations. We have foretold the appearances of comets, and above all, the occurrences of eclipses, of both sun and moon, in the calculation of which the motions, magnitude and distances of different members of the solar system are necessarily used. How can it be possible that eclipses are foretold by calculation, to the *moment*, of their commencement and close, if the data upon which such calculations are based be incorrect?

We think, that every vestage of doubt should be dissipated by these considerations, imperfectly as we have presented them, owing, in part, to the limited space necessarily assigned to a lecture of this kind. We trust, however, that these few remarks will serve to elicit, and to excite a spirit of enquiry amongst, at least, some of our members. It being the design of this institution to confine its operations, principally, to the physical sciences, we have deemed it useful to commence with some facts drawn from Geography and Astronomy—sciences which are well calculated to interest and instruct, and we would here be leave respectfully to suggest them to the attention of the members. They will thus be enabled to look intelligently beyond the horizon which bounds us upon every side—to cast their mental vision around the whole earth, contemplate its grand divisions—view its kingdoms, its empires, its republics—nay, they will be enabled to raise their eyes, and behold the beautiful simplicity, the overwhelming grandeur, and the perfect harmony, which govern the innumbered millions of worlds, and systems of worlds, which float through the boundless range of space!

## Star & Republican Banner.

At $2 per annum, half-yearly in advance.

GETTYSBURGH, PENN.

*MONDAY MORNING, FEB. 6, 1837.*

Thadeus Stevens.—The Ontario, (N. Y.) Repository, edited by *O. L. Holly*, Esq. thus notices the compliment paid Mr. Stevens by the publisher of Dr. Dick's work on the Mental Illumination and Moral Improvement of Mankind:

"This compliment is merited. Mr. Stevens is among the ablest men in Pennsylvania, and was the leading mind of the Legislature of that State last year—a year at least as distinguished by enlightened and efficient legislation for the advancement of the great cause of education and internal improvements, as any in the annals of the "keystone" State."

### Gens. Scott and Gaines.

☞The Chambersburgh Telegraph, *a Van Buren paper*, makes the following remarks in reference to the proceedings of the Court of Inquiry at Frederick:—

"There is no doubt entertained of both Scott and Gaines being honorably acquitted by the Court, *they having done every thing that lay in their power to terminate the war with the savages*. No matter where the cause of the failure of the Indian campaign may lie, there is one thing certain, and that is, *that some of our best military men have been subjected to censure* WITHOUT ANY GOOD REASON."

### GEN. SCOTT.

☞The following very beautiful lines, (which we find in the Frederick Herald,) if we mistake not, are from the pen of the Rev. Jno. L. Pierpont, a Methodist Minister, who so ably and faithfully served the congregations of this District a few years ago. They were suggested upon hearing the closing remarks of Maj. Gen. Scott, when making his defence before the Military Court of Inquiry, on the 20th ult."

Go, warrior! still upon thy brow
Let wreath to wear, which valor won,
Nor heed the presumptuous sneer,
Columbia's brave and gallant son.

The favor! one who with thee shares,
The mutual ills and joys of life,
Is jealous of thy fame, and bears
Of hope and fears the deadly strife.

Bid her rejoice and with thee share,
Thy Country's well deserved applause,
For deeds which thus dishonorably dare,
In freedom's just and holy cause.

Tell her the warrior still is brave,
No coward fear his bosom knows,
The Martial Court decision gave,
Which the full meed of praise bestows.

Bid the fond one who call thee sire,
Behold the wreath unsullied still,
And kindle with indignant ire,
In counting o'er their parent's ill.

Go, warrior, go! our social cheer,
No more thy manly form shall greet;
But oft shall memory with a tear,
The name of gallant Scott repeat.

Frederick, Jan. 27th. P. L. J.

### Jury Trials to Slaves.

☞In the House of Representatives, on the 27th ult. among the petitions offered was one from the Pennsylvania Anti-Slavery Society, praying that jury trials may be granted to *Runaway Slaves*. The following interesting sketch of a debate on the subject, we extract from the Harrisburgh Telegraph:—

Mr. Fond, in presenting this petition, commented some remarks on the importance of the object, but was informed by the Speaker that it would not be in order. He then moved that it be referred to the judiciary committee, with instructions to report a bill granting the prayer of the petitioners.

Mr. F. said he felt, it his duty to say a few words on account of the great importance of the subject at the present time.

The society from whence the petition originates was incorporated by the legislature in 1718, and among the corporators he recognized some of the most distinguished citizens of that period in Pennsylvania—such as Benjamin Franklin, a name dear to every Pennsylvanian, who was the first President of the Society. The object these patriots had in view is now enjoyed by men not worthy to kissthe hands—the lowest and vilest agitators that ever officiated in a republican government. Among the original names he also noticed that of Lafayette and William Penn.

The right of trial by jury he regarded as the only efficient protection of liberty, or any of the *rights of man*—and the petition only asked that this right may be extended to men suspected of being fugitives from labor. Sir, shall these petitions not be heard? Shall they be rejected? He hoped not. It was just and right that the act requested should be passed. He regretted that the gentleman from the city (Mr. M'Ilvaine, not now in his seat) took the erroneous position he did on a former occasion.

Liberty is the same to all men, and when it is invaded the right should be tried by a jury. It was a question of fact, and a jury was the only proper tribunal to decide it.

Mr. Rambo moved that the subject be referred to the early attention of the next legislature.

Mr. Lewellen moved an indefinite postponement.

Mr. Morton said he was no Abolitionist, but a Colonizationist. But he hoped Pennsylvania would never confound a human being with a dumb beast. He would never vote against giving a poor unfortunate African a jury trial, when his liberty was involved.

Mr. Lewellen wanted to get rid of the subject—a subject improperly brought before the legislature.

Mr. Johnston thought no difficulty should be placed by Pennsylvania in way of the slave-holders recovering their property.—There was one sect in Pennsylvania conscientiously opposed to slavery, and did not believe that a slave could be legally held as property, and who never would give one reclaimed to his master. This would be throwing an impediment in the way of Southern men, dangerous to the integrity of the Union, and contrary to the constitutional compact.

Mr. Hopkins should vote against the indefinite postponement—it was due to the respectable petitioners, that a reference should be given to their memorials.

Mr. Barnitt said this question had nothing to do with slavery—Pennsylvania had nothing to do with that subject, nor was it a question of abolition. It simply was, how a certain question of fact should be decided, and legislation in reference to this could not endanger the Union. He would be for giving constitutional rights to all men.

Mr. Watts said, he would not have spoken, were it not for the *extraordinary* course adopted by a leading member of the majority, "to postpone indefinitely the consideration of the whole subject."

For one he recognized the right of all citizens to memorialize their representatives and a correspondent duty of the representatives to treat the petition with respect.

Without committing himself on the important principles involved in the memorials, he was in favor of such a reference as would produce a bill, upon which the House could act intelligibly at a future day. The practice of stifling the voice of freemen by postponing *indefinitely*, he deprecated as *unworthy* of men.

He was for strictly observing the provisions of the constitution of the United States, and the laws of Congress made in *conformity* thereto. But whether we were invading the one or the other, by granting the right of trial by jury, so long as we recognized men as free men, who asserted their freedom, was a subject for grave deliberation hereafter.

The slave-holder *claims* a human being as a slave, and therefore as *property*.

Here is an issue of fact between a person who alleges his freedom, and one who claims his property. If the subject were a horse or a cow, instead of a human, intelligent and responsible being, our government provides the trial by jury, which is emphatically called the great charter of liberty. But it is gravely said, when the subject is a human creature, who has *taken round natural rights* to be *free*, and whose rights are only abridged by force of circumstances that no such privileges can be extended to him.

Mr. Ward, said, he was not prepared at present to discuss the constitutional question, and would say nothing more than this—that whenever an individual was claimed as a fugitive slave, there were facts to be ascertained and duly determined. 1. Whether he was a *fugitive*. 2. Whether a slave. 3. Whether the *property* of the claimant. If the legislature had the constitutional power to declare that these facts should be determined by the court, he saw no reason why they might not have them tried by a jury. But, at present, he was only in favor of a hearing.

Mr. Lewellen then withdrew his motion to postpone.

Mr. Seagman said, were this a new question the House could not hesitate, for they could not fail to perceive, that if for a trifle of property, or a charge involving but a few days imprisonment, a trial by jury must be had—how much greater its importance where liberty for ever might be taken away. But liberty to the black was not always alone involved. He referred to the case of Mary Gilmore, a white girl, claimed as a slave, and her difficulty in escaping.

As a Pennsylvanian, he could not refuse to legislate on all proper subjects within the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania, independently, regardless of Southern menaces.

He believed Congress had the only authority upon the subject, and to that legislature he would recommend the petitioners to apply.

Mr. *Gilmore* had no objection to the subject being referred to the judiciary committee, who would report on the subject—though he argued that any act such as asked for would be unconstitutional.

Mr. Rambo withdrew his motion, and moved to amend the motion of Mr. Ford, to instruct the judiciary committee *to inquire into the expediency* of reporting a bill, &c.

Mr. Ford opposed this amendment also. From the chairman of the committee (Mr. Gilmore) he had received indication of what that committee think of the *expediency* of the question, and he was in favor of instructing the committee.

Further remarks were made by Messrs. Johnson, Cleaver, Watts, Rambo, and Ellicks, when the amendment was agreed to, and it was referred to the judiciary committee, with instructions to inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill in accordance with the prayer of the petitioners.

### Free Discussion in Perry county!

☞Mr. Perry Forester of January 21, contains the following notice:

"Our town was visited on Tuesday last by one of those blued, 'yclept an Abolition lecturer, who, in his peripatetic rounds through the country, came to enlighten the inhabitants of this goodly borough on the subject, of slavery, abolition, &c. For the information of those at a distance we remark, that his reception was according to the "most approved fashion," to wit: interruption in his lecture, before he had half finished; a modest hint that he might retire, and not trouble the people with his incendiary remarks, and an escort to his lodgings, the drum and fife playing the "*Rogues March*."

The above is Editorial, and its sentiments are severely rebuked in the following communication, in the same paper of the 28th:—

*From the Perry Forester.*

MOBOCRACY *alias* DEMOCRACY.

"A free communication of thoughts and opinions is one of the invaluable rights of man." said Thos. Jefferson, and so says every true and genuine democrat; but, alas! how many depart far from the line laid down by the illustrious founder of democracy, who would conceive themselves insulted were you to tell them they were not democrats! But we will seek no stronger proof of the principles by which men are governed in their actions, for their conduct is the only criterion by which the public can judge of their principles. A late occurrence in the village of Bloomfield, gives us and others reason to conclude that man's practices are sometimes at variance with their professions.

A gentleman in the employ of the American Anti-Slavery Society, arrived in Bloomfield, and, having obtained permission of the Trustees of the Presbyterian Church, proposed to deliver a lecture on the evils of slavery, or, in other words, to communicate his thoughts on that all important subject to his fellow citizens. But, tell it not in Gath, instead of peaceably hearing him, and then combatting him by argument and reason, a mob is raised, headed, prompted, and instigated by men, whose names we forbear to mention, hoping they may see the inconsistency of their course, and yet retract their errors; and they are too, men who make loud professions of Democracy! We will, however, let the public judge whether Mobocracy is not very much at variance with Democracy.

The mob marched into the church, as I understand, with the thundering *drum* and shrill sounding fife, and kept such a noise that the voice of the speaker was lost in the confusion of the moment—when some person apprised the speaker of their intention to *force* him to cease speaking his sentiments, and advised him to desist, which he did, and thereby prevented the execution of their nefarious designs.

I have now done for the present, and would simply ask these stern, uncompromising undeviating Democrats, as they are called, how they can reconcile their proceedings with the doctrine of Thomas Jefferson, the father of Democracy, that "error of opinion may be tolerated, so long as reason is left free to combat it"? Can such intolerance be justified? If so: then farewell liberty of speech and of the press: your sun has set, and the voice of the rabble has become the law of the land. Alas! and is it possible that men who are under the solemn obligation of an oath to support the constitution and laws of the land, can stoop to such odious employment? I do not at present feel disposed to go into any lengthy argument to show the evil tendency of this lawless procedure; but may possibly resume this subject again. DEMOCRACY.

From the Harrisburgh Telegraph.

### TO THE PUBLIC.

Whereas, paragraphs have recently appeared in several newspapers in this borough, and in other places, greatly injurious to a large class of your fellow citizens called Abolitionists, aspersing their character, maligning their motives, and inventing all manner of injury to their persons, at the hands of irresponsible and vile men, wherever such men are to be found: and that for no other crime than the free expression of their opinions:—

*And Whereas*, certain meetings have been held in Dauphin and Cumberland counties, at which, part of our fellow citizens have assumed to arrogate to as to what subjects it is proper for us to discuss, and when it is proper to discuss them, which practice, if it prevails, must eventually destroy all free discussion on all subjects whatever, since that man plainly has no freedom, if any of his neighbors may direct him how to use it:

*And Whereas*, the mind of the South has been greatly abused and deeply deceived as to the real intention of Abolitionists, by political and mercantile papers, whose conductors are desirous to sell the liberties of the Northern laborer for Southern money, or votes, or temporary popularity, gained by alarming the fears and prejudices of honest minded men at the North; who have been openly advised to "shoot down the first man at this State, who wicked instigators of murder and servile insurrection," several lecturers, employed by a society organized in this State, (Dec. 3d and 4th, 1833,) have been pelted with resolutions being sent to the South, tend to influence Southern minds, and prevent abolitionists obtaining hearing before the subject (said) men at the South;—This notice is to declare.

1. The American Anti-Slavery Society was formed in the State of Pennsylvania on the 3d and 4th days of December, 1833.—In this State and not in New York, was formed a society but about 3 years since which now numbers as members and auxiliaries between one and two hundred thousand of your fellow citizens of all parties and all denominations in religion, besides hundreds who belong to no party in politics and no persuasion in religion.

2. The Abolitionists do not wish to abolish Slavery simply and solely by moral power, i. e. by persuading this nation, that the abolition of Slavery would be safe and profitable to the country. Yet we humbly believe *emancipation* is the duty of every master who fears God or loves his country. If any man says we cannot do it in this way, he is a slanderer of the Bible, for the Scriptures they are sufficient. But I need not feel disposed to go into any lengthy argument to show the evil tendency of this lawless procedure; but may possibly resume this subject again. DEMOCRACY.

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If any man asks why we do not go to the South at once. Our answer is, because, there are multitudes of slave-holders in Pennsylvania and all over the North; there are wealthy money-lenders, Jews, and stockjobbers in our cities and large towns, who have filled the ears of the South, and of the whole country, with slanders of the Abolitionists, calling us fanatics, mad-men, instigators of murder, &c. so that our rights have been trampled upon, our persons violated, our lives often assailed, even at the North, and that too by honest but deceived laborers, whose rights we are defending, and who, if they once understood us, will always be on our side.

3. The Abolitionists *do not* mean to invade the sanctity of the social circle but to let every man, woman and child, have the right of choice in selecting his or her own partner, and associate forever. If the Abolitionists were anxious to produce the amalgamation of the white and colored people they have only to stand still and slavery will do it. The Abolitionists believe that every man of whatever complexion, ought to be treated just as well as he deserves, and no better.

4. The Abolitionists believe, generally, that many white capitalists would be glad to fix the public mind in such a posture that they can make slaves out of the most valuable laborers at the North:—that slavery will dissolve the Union of the States if not abolished:—that abolitonism will save it by removing the sole bone of contention between the North and South—they believe that our colored brethren as a class, are wickedly persecuted and oppossed at the North, and that God's curse will light on this whole land, as it has every other nation, unless the son of oppression shall cease.

This is further to notify all concerned that I will meet any man or men in Cumberland or Dauphin county, any time within three months from date before any enlightened audience, subject to the rules of ordinary debate, to be agreed upon before the discussion, prepared to maintain each and every sentiment expressed in the above article, against the opposite opinion.

With great respect, I am &c.

J. BLANCHARD.

Harrisburgh, Jan. 8th, 1837.

## GENERAL NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Counterfeit notes of five dollars on the Franklin Bank at Columbus, are in circulation at Pittsburgh, Pa. and elsewhere.

Extensive Failure in Manchester, England.—A gentleman of Boston has just placed in our hands a letter from his correspondent in Manchester, England, dated Dec. 24th, from which we are permitted to make the following extract: "One of the largest Banks in England, failed yesterday, and has not yet stopped payment.—Their liabilities are over £1,500,000—say about $7,000,000. Manchester will be all in an uproar to morrow, when it is known, and half the merchants in the country will be ruined. The New York fire was nothing to what this will be, and you have the first intelligence."

Forgery.—A young man, clerk in the counting house of Edward D. Peters, Boston has been arrested for forging a check on the Atlantic bank, in the name of Lambert & Slade for $2500. He has a wife and one child.

Washington Rail-Road.—The bonus which has been paid to the State of Maryland, for the travelling upon the Washington Branch of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail-road, for the six months ending with the 31st of December last, amounted to $17,128. 61. The bonus for the six months preceding, amounted to $18,167.14: making the entire sum paid into the State Treasury, from this source, for the year 1836, amount to $35,295.75.

Physician's Fee.—In Burmah, when a young woman is taken ill, her parents agree with the physician, that if he cures the patient, he may have her for his trouble, but if she dies under his medicines he is to pay them her value. It is stated that successful physicians have large families of females, who have become their property in this manner.

Branding.—R. B. Herring, of Tenessee, who sometime since murdered his son, has been found guilty of manslaughter. The sentence was that he should be branded on the hand with the letter M. imprisoned for 18 months, and pay a fine of $5,000 and the cost of the prosecution.

Judge Birdsall, of Fredonia, N. York, sent word to his wife's mother, after he had been married only a few weeks, that she must immediately take her daughter home without assigning any reason, and immediately left for the south. Mrs. B. was so shocked at this extraordinary conduct that she was bereft of her senses.

Mr. Reuben M. Whitney is a native of Princeton, in this state, and has a brother in the present member of the Massachusetts Legislature—a worthy man, and genuine whig.—Reuben, some twenty-five years ago, was established in mercantile business in Montreal, and at the close of the last war, while President Jackson was fighting the battle of New Orleans, he and Horatio Gates were sole contractors for the British army in Canada.

At a subsequent period, Mr. Whitney removed to Philadelphia, and became a bankrupt. For several years past, he has been before the public as a financier, and in that capacity has been a great loser to all the people. His income, at the present time from the pet banks, has been established at 15 to 20,000 dollars per annum.—*Boston Gazette.*

Isaac R. Douglas, has been elected by the Legislature of Virginia a Judge of the General Court of that State, in place of Judge Parsons elected a Senator in Congress.

Massachusetts State Prison.—The net profits of the Massachusetts State Prison last year were $13,500. Number of prisoners 30th September, 278; of whom 23 are confined for life.

Capital Punishment.—The committee of the Ohio Legislature, on the bill to abolish Capital Punishments reported that it was improper to do so, and recommended that the bill be indefinitely postponed. The report was accordingly agreed to.

Boston Notion.—Some Boston vessels having made a profit on cargoes of ice carried to the East Indies, a wag has started a project, to supply the Indies with ice, by harnessing a team of whales to the icebergs of the Polar regions. Not a bad saint or sinner of the wild and visionary variety, at the present time.

Execution.—We have on given place, to day a communication on the late act of the Senate, by which it is pretended a page of the record of body is *expunged*. We do not so understand the meaning of the word. The act in itself is disgraceful enough. But, *expunging, to the Senate*, for the pretence is, that the *record* in question is *obliterated*. If it were so, there are no words in any language, with which we can adequately express our indignation. The act is disgraceful enough, but the pretence is the deep and damning disgrace which would attach to such an act. But after all, the work of Messrs. Benton & Co. is a mere farce, so far as their proceeding has any effect. The *record* is not obliterated. It remains a record of the vote of the Senate of 1834; and the Senate of 1837 have added to it a record of their own re-cality, which will consign them to everlasting infamy and contempt. The whole record goes together to posterity. Without touching the question, whether the Senate of 1834 were right or wrong in passing censure on Gen. Jackson, there can be but one opinion upon the proceeding of the present Senate, and there is but one opinion upon it—however partisans and tool-caters may affect to gloss over the darkness of the transaction. The name of the political miscreants are as immortal as the records of our government and the memory of man can make them.—*Boston Courier.*

From Chili and Peru.—Letters from Buenos Ayres to Nov. 4, received in Boston via Havana, state that information reached there from Chili, that hostilities had actually commenced between Peru and Chili, and had been officially communicated by the British minister to the merchants at Buenos Ayres.

A letter from Payta stated that the Chilian brig of war Achilles had been into the harbor of Callao, and captured three or four Peruvian vessels.

A Proper Movement.—A meeting of persons engaged in the navigation of steamboats on the waters of the West, was held in the City of Louisville, on the 14th. We learn from the Journal, that the proper spirit is evinced to prevent in future, as far as human agency can, those disastrous occurrences, which have too often been attended with a great loss of human life.

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Physician's Fee.—In Burmah, when a young woman is taken ill, her parents agree with the physician, that if he cures the patient, he may have her for his trouble, but if she dies under his medicines he is to pay them her value. It is stated that successful physicians have large families of females, who have become their property in this manner.

Branding.—R. B. Herring, of Tenessee, who sometime since murdered his son, has been found guilty of manslaughter. The sentence was that he should be branded on the hand with the letter M. imprisoned for 18 months, and pay a fine of $5,000 and the cost of the prosecution.

Judge Birdsall, of Fredonia, N. York, sent word to his wife's mother, after he had been married only a few weeks, that she must immediately take her daughter home without assigning any reason, and immediately left for the south. Mrs. B. was so shocked at this extraordinary conduct that she was bereft of her senses.

Mr. Reuben M. Whitney is a native of Princeton, in this state, and has a brother in the present member of the Massachusetts Legislature—a worthy man, and genuine whig.—Reuben, some twenty-five years ago, was established in mercantile business in Montreal, and at the close of the last war, while President Jackson was fighting the battle of New Orleans, he and Horatio Gates were sole contractors for the British army in Canada.

At a subsequent period, Mr. Whitney removed to Philadelphia, and became a bankrupt. For several years past, he has been before the public as a financier, and in that capacity has been a great loser to all the people. His income, at the present time from the pet banks, has been established at 15 to 20,000 dollars per annum.—*Boston Gazette.*

Isaac R. Douglas, has been elected by the Legislature of Virginia a Judge of the General Court of that State, in place of Judge Parsons elected a Senator in Congress.

Massachusetts State Prison.—The net profits of the Massachusetts State Prison last year were $13,500. Number of prisoners 30th September, 278; of whom 23 are confined for life.

Capital Punishment.—The committee of the Ohio Legislature, on the bill to abolish Capital Punishments reported that it was improper to do so, and recommended that the bill be indefinitely postponed. The report was accordingly agreed to.

Boston Notion.—Some Boston vessels having made a profit on cargoes of ice carried to the East Indies, a wag has started a project, to supply the Indies with ice, by harnessing a team of whales to the icebergs of the Polar regions. Not a bad saint or sinner of the wild and visionary variety, at the present time.

Remarkable Invention.—The Boston Post says they have got a shingle machine in Mobile, that only requires to be wound up once in a week to work for a year, provide itself with shingles and completely cover the roof of a house in twenty-four hours.

The *Bonapartes*, it is said, are all coming to the United States, with the exception of two females whose age renders them unable to make the voyage. They have sold all their rich estates in Italy and elsewhere, with the intention of vesting their whole property in this country.

Effects of Fright.—The Boston Post says, that on the night of the fire in the Howard Street House, two strangers, who lodged in the same room, jumped out of bed, at the alarm of fire, and both grabbed the same pantaloons, and each inserted a leg into them, and thus chained together, like galley slaves, they got into the street, and cried fire lustily.

Names.—A boy named Harrison Grey Otis has been found guilty of stealing in Boston, and Alexander Hamilton has been sentenced in N. York for assault and battery.

31st of October, amount to $228,613,41—which, it will be seen, is considerably more than the income derived to the State from that source. It is probable, however, that in the coming year, when the outlay will be less, the balance will be thrown on the other side.

The aggregates here given, comprise the general results upon eleven different divisions of the public canals and rail-roads of that State. In addition to these we copy the items pertaining specially to the Philadelphia and Columbia Rail-road, as likely to be interesting to our readers.

The length of the Philadelphia and Columbia Rail-road is 82 miles. The cost of repairs thereon during the past year, is $865,463,96; tolls for the use of the rail-road $168,833,77; tolls for the use of the motive power $90,059,12—total tolls 259,892,89. Expenses of collecting tolls $4,910, expenses of motive power $139,113,59—total expenses $144,103,59.

By another table of particulars, showing the amounts and kinds of the various articles shipped on the canals, during the year past, it appears that there have been shipped eastward and southward, upon these canals, 165,342 barrels of flour, and 1,532,208 bushels of wheat.—*Balt. Pat.*

Congress.—There remains but another month for Congress to finish the multifarious business of the session. All that has transpired thus far has been of little notoriety, saving the passage of the Expunging resolutions and some personal interactions among the members.

From the York Republican.

### The Valley Rail Roads.

We understand that Mr. Thomson offered a resolution in the House of Representatives on the 19th January, directing the committee on Inland Navigation and Internal Improvement to inquire into the expediency of repealing the act of last session, authorizing the construction of an additional rail road from Wrightsville to York. We are inclined to think this inquiry a work of supererogation, as in addition to the unfavorable nature of charters and contracts, we understand that the rival companies have made a compromise, and united their interests in one road. What the terms of their agreement are we know not; but if they have united, it is only the consummation which we have labored to effect, while others, without a single feeling of sympathy for the farmer, used the double rail road as a political hobby, and made it the medium of circulating the most outrageous falsehoods publicly by muendo, privately by bold assertion.

### THE EXPUNGED RESOLUTION.

The following resolution was passed by the Senate of the United States on the 28th day of March, 1834:

*Resolved, That the President, in the late Executive Proceedings in relation to the Public Revenue, has assumed upon himself Authority and Power not conferred by the Constitution and Laws, but in derogation of both.*—Originally passed. Yeas 26. Nays 20.

The Senators who voted for this resolution were

BIBB, BLACK, CALHOUN, CLAY, CLAYTON, EWING, FRELINGHUYSEN, KENT, KNIGHT, LEIGH, MANGUM, NAUDAIN, PORTER, PORTER, RUGGLES, SEBRIE, SMITH, SOUTHARD, SPRAGUE, SWIFT, TOMLINSON, TYLER, WAGGAMAN, WEBSTER—27.

Those who voted for "expunging" the above resolution are enclosed within the following black lines:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **List of the Black Knights:** | | |
| JOHN BUGGLES, | Maine. | |
| JUDAH DANA, | Do. | |
| HENRY HUBBARD, | N.Hampshire | |
| JOHN PAGE, | Do. | |
| JOHN M. NILES, | Connecticut | |
| SILAS WRIGHT, | New York | |
| N. P. TALLMADGE, | Do. | |
| GARRET D. WALL, | New Jersey | |
| **James Buchanan,** | **Penn'a.** | |
| WILLIAM WILKINS, | Virginia. | |
| BEDFORD BROWN, | N.Carolina | |
| ROBERT STRANGE, | Do. | |
| THOMAS MORRIS, | Ohio. | |
| FELIX GRUNDY, | Tennessee | |
| L. C. NICHOLAS, | Louisiana. | |
| JOHN TIPTON, | Indiana. | |
| ROBERT J. WALKER, | Mississippi. | |
| JOHN M. ROBINSON, | Illinois. | |
| WILLIAM L. D. EWING, | Do. | |
| WILLIAM R. KING, | Alabama. | |
| THOMAS H. BENTON, | Missouri. | |
| LEWIS F. LINN, | Do. | |
| AMBROSE H. SEVIER, | Arkansas. | |
| ROBERT FULTON, | Do. | |

Sops in the Pan.—Of the *Expungers* it appears that Richard Fitzhugh, holding an office in his field, through the bounty of Jackson, something like $30,000 of the people's money. *Buchanan* about $25 000; *Niles* about $15,000; *Walk* about $10,000; *Fulton* $6,000. Gratitude is a lively feeling of favors, as well as squinting towards others in reserve, are the powerful inducements which led those *disinterested* Patriots to violate decency, truth, and the Constitution, in order to expunge a just and merited resolution of censure.

Pennsylvania Public Works.—By a report from the Canal Commissioners, to the Senate of Pennsylvania, in compliance with a resolution of that body, in reference to the receipts for tolls and motive power on the canals and railroads of that State, as well as squinting towards others in reserve, are the powerful inducements which led those *disinterested* Patriots to violate decency, truth, and the Constitution, in order to expunge a just and merited resolution of censure.


## STAR & REPUBLICAN BANNER.

BY ROBERT W. MIDDLETON.

GETTYSBURGH, PA.

*Monday, February 6, 1837.*


☞The Wagon price of Flour in Baltimore—$10 50.

☞We ask attention to the Lecture in another column. The Lyceum meets again on Saturday evening next, in the Court-house, (up-stairs.)

☞We give another interesting Letter from our Harrisburgh friend.

☞The proceedings of the Anti Slavery Convention, which met in Harrisburgh on Tuesday last, will be given in our next.

### *Temperance Convention.*

☞A State Temperance Convention is to be held in Harrisburgh on Tuesday the 14th inst. Have any of the Temperance Societies of Adams county elected delegates? If not, would it not be advisable to do so?

### *State Convention—Pittsburgh Times.*

☞The Pittsburgh Times is in raw weather, it states that the State Convention is a "humbug of the Todd Harrisonites." The Gettysburgh Star was the first to propose the holding of that Convention. Of *the "Todd Harrisonian," we* trust the Times can judge from its past course. We go—not for Toddism, Harrisonism, or any other *nonsense*—but for the *distinctive principles of Democratic Anti-Masonry*. The time cannot be more under that pure banner every Anti-Mason, was our object in urging the Convention. And it would grieve us much to find that any *Anti-Masonic* Journal objects to the convention of a result so desirable—especially if that journal should be the Pittsburgh Times.

The Times also cries when it states that that Convention will make a Presidential nomination. Delegates will, without doubt, be chosen to the National Convention which meets next September (we believe) in Philadelphia—when that Convention will present candidates for the President and Vice Presidency to the support of the Democratic Anti-Masonic Party. *Who* they will be, we know not, neither do we care. He they who elined to think this inquiry a work of supererogation, as in addition to the unfavorable nature of charters and contracts, we understand that the rival companies have made a compromise, and united their interests in one road. What the terms of their agreement are we know not; but if they have united, it is only the consummation which we have labored to effect, while others, without a single feeling of sympathy for the farmer, used the double rail road as a political hobby, and made it the medium of circulating the most outrageous falsehoods publicly by muendo, privately by bold assertion.


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### *Massachusetts Anti-Masons.*

☞The Lodge in Massachusetts has had a grand *Te Deum* at its victory in dissolving