Star & Republican Banner.

At $3 per annum, half-yearly in advance.

GETTYSBURGH, PENN.

MONDAY MORNING, FEB. 20, 1837.

☞We learn from the Compiler that the following gentlemen have been appointed by Gen. Thomas C. Miller, and commissioned by the Governor, *Staff Officers of the 2d brigade, 5th division, Pennsylvania militia, viz:—*

Col. John Thompson, of York County, Aide-de-Camp.

Col. Jacob Herman, of Adams County, Brigade Major.

Dr. David Gilbert, of Gettysburgh, Brigade Quarter Master.

Abolition of Slavery.

☞For several days, week before last, the Lower House of Congress was in a tumult, brought about by Mr. Adams presenting petitions upon the subject of Slavery. The gag-law has been repeatedly forced to stop Mr. Adams—and as repeatedly evaded by that gentleman. During the week alluded to, after having presented a large number of petitions calling for the abolition of Slavery in the District of Columbia, Mr. Adams stated he held in his hand a petition purporting to be from Slaves, and asked if said petition would come under the order of the House to lay all petitions on the subject of Slavery upon the table—which petition he, however, retained in his possession.—The hot-heads of the South here let fly their fury against Mr. Adams! «Expell him!" «Expell him!" was echoed and re-echoed throughout the House! After, however, two or three days spent in «sound and fury," the following preamble and resolution were adopted—yeas 160, nays 35—Mr. Adams was among the number against abolition—

An inquiry having been made by an honorable gentleman from Massachusetts whether a paper which he held in his hand, purported to be a petition from certain slaves, and declaring themselves to be slaves, and within the order of the House of the 18th of January, and said paper not having been received by the Speaker, he stated that, in a case so extraordinary and novel, he would take the advice and counsel of the House:

Resolved, That this House cannot receive said petition without disregarding its own dignity, the rights of a large class of citizens of the South and West, and the Constitution of the United States.

The following resolution was also adopted by a vote of 132 to 18—Mr. Chambers voting *in favor* of the resolution:—

Resolved, That slaves do not possess the right of petition secured to the citizens of the United States by the Constitution.

The Right of Petition.

☞We hold, that it is the right—the Constitutional right of the people to petition either Congress or the State Legislatures upon *all* subjects. We also hold, that such petitions should be received and respectfully disposed of, however «sculd» the prayers of the petitioners may be. No Representative has a right to refuse the presentation of petitions; neither has he a right to abuse his constituents, or suffer them to be abused, by those opposed to the sentiments contained in the petitions which he is called upon to present. Entertaining such views, we do most heartily adopt and approve of the sentiments breathed throughout the subjoined article:—

New-York Tract Society Transcript.

Right of Petition.

It is no excuse in rejecting petitions that are offered to Congress in favor of the abolition of slavery, immediate or gradual in the district of Columbia, that the office they bear indirectly upon the institutions of slavery, as they exist in the southern or slave-holding states. The people have a right unquestionably to petition Congress on this subject, and if the majority do not deem it *expedient* to grant their prayer, they can, when the subject comes up for decision, vote it down. But they have no right to *refuse* to receive the petition, or to treat the petitioners with contempt, and abuse them because they differ in opinion from themselves. It is the privileges of freemen to differ in opinion; it is not the *prerogative* of any public servant to abuse any part of the people, the legitimate sovereignty of the country. Nor have the members from the slave-holding states, a right to fret and fume and threaten to dissolve the Union, or resort to hostile arms, because a part of the *sovereign* people petition peaceably for the removal of slavery from a part of the public domain, over which Congress exercise exclusive jurisdiction and legislation. They may imagine that a blow is aimed at the entire institution of slavery in the United States, and that, not having abolished it in the District, the example will become contagious, and induce itself into the several slave states, and ultimately compel them to emancipate their slaves. And it may be so. But that is quite another question, over which Congress cannot exercise any control, and with which they have nothing to do. *That* is a question purely belonging to the States in which they alone can settle—one on which they alone can constitutionally act. Congress cannot disturb the domestic relations of slavery in the states, which is well known to the friends of abolition; and they have never petitioned Congress for any such thing. It is beyond their reach, and out of the pale of their petition, and their powers.

And whenever appeals are made to Congress to intermeddle with the institution of slavery in the states, then the Southern gentlemen, who are so extremely sensitive, will have time enough and reason to complain. Then they can safely entrench themselves behind the constitution, and bid defiance to national legislation, and tell the petitioners you have overstepped your bounds, you are "asking for an unconstitutional thing which cannot be granted to you. Attend to your duty as lawful petitioners, and we will attend to ours, as constitutional sentinels of the peace of slavery we so deem proper in our own states." This would be more like reason and more like law, and would go far to quench the jarring interests and hostile feelings that at present exist. But when a set of men, from any section of the Union act with so much madness, and make themselves so supremely ridiculous by their violence and threats as many of the members of Congress have done, whenever the subject of slavery is mentioned in either of the houses of Congress; when they draw arguments from their passions rather then their prudence, and educe reasons from raving, rather than from cool deliberation, and rant and rage as if they were bereft of their senses, they expose themselves to the contempt of the calm and dispassionate portion of the people, and establish conclusively their fitness for a mad house, rather than for a deliberative assembly. But in this case, the evil of rejecting petitions for the right to petition, and spurning them and their authors is not confined to the mere question of Slavery or Anti-Slavery. It violates a constitutional principle, it assails a solemn and unalienable right it wars against the liberty and freedom of action of the citizen, and it lays the foundation broad and deep, for other inroads in constitutional liberty.

For if it can be firmly and unchangeably established, that petitions on one unwelcome subject can be rejected and spurned, and the right to present them denied, it follows necessarily, that other petitions, on every other unwelcome subject, can also be treated in a similar manner. If abuses exist in the administration of the government, if rulers should become tyrannical or prodigal, or if any other evil should arise calling for redress, without which the liberty and rights of the citizens would be sacrificed, and if they were honorably to petition for relief or the removal of the evil complained of, those in the National Legislature interested in the perpetuation of those evils, might also refuse to receive the petitions—deny the right to present them, and spurn the petitioners with abuse, and the application of odious epithets, from their presence. All reasonable men will admit that this would be tyranny, a gross usurpation of power and prerogative, and a flagrant violation of constitutional law, and the freedom of the citizen.—And what is there to prevent such a course of conduct if the scenes recently acted, if the unchecked spirit and prerogatives of those interested portion of Congressional members, and countenanced and connived at by others—are to be tolerated, and acquire the sanctity of custom and common usage, and the validity of law and constitutional rightness in our halls of legislation? We answer nothing. It will then be too late to stand up for the principles of pure and undiluted liberty, for the vital spirit of the goddess will have departed from amongst us. We shall have then nothing left us, but the wretched wreck of our rights, and the galling chains of slavery, will be firmly fixed upon us. Then indeed, we shall be in a worse condition than the slaves of the south, who are allowed to petition their masters for a day of liberty and a boon of relief.—For we will have consummated the destruction of the temple, dedicated to rational liberty, and will be permitted only to weep and wail over the solitary sepulchre of the constitution.

But before closing these remarks, we must be permitted to say, that we cherish the feelings of the most sovereign contempt for those eastern and northern men in Congress, who servilely truckle to those of the south, and traitorously unite with them in the vile crusade against the constitutional right of petition. They certainly have no direct interest in this matter; they have no fears that the war against slavery will be carried into their respective states, for they have no slaves, (save white ones,) among them. But like fawning sycophants, they crouch at the feet of southern anger and southern domination, and cringe, and tremble, and trembling cowards before the moral and political tempest that rages round them. And while they thus debase themselves, and betray all their independence of opinion and their patriotic regard for liberty and the rights of the citizen, to appease the clamorous appetite of southern vengeance, they merit and they receive the unqualified and ineffable contempt of those chivalric southerners, whom they degrade themselves to serve, and who consider them destitute of independence and spirit; who despise them for their dastardly timeserving policy, and who think, and have reason to *think*, that they are traitors to their fears, cowards at heart, and below the level of the slaves who bend in homage at their feet. But we have done with this subject for the present, and will only add, that unless we send honester, more highminded, and independent men to Congress, than many are from the northern states, men who have souls of their own, and who dare to act untrammelled by southern control, we may soon bid adieu to one of the most valuable portions of our liberties to one of the most sacred safeguards of freedom, the right of our citizens to petition for what they conceive to be wrongs, and may write *expunged* on every leaf of the Declaration of Independence, and on every page of our glorious Constitution.

United States and Mexico.

☞The following Message from the President of the United States to Congress, should have been published in our last.

To the Senate of the United States.

At the beginning of this session, Congress was informed that our claims upon Mexico had not been adjusted, but that, notwithstanding the irritating effect upon her feelings of the late movements in Texas, I hoped, by great forbearance, to avoid the necessity of again bringing the subject of them to your notice. That hope has been disappointed. Having in vain urged and remonstrated against the justice of our claims and my indispensable obligation to insist that there should be "no further delay in the acknowledgment, if not in the redress of the injuries complained of," my duty requires that the whole subject should be presented, as it now is, for the action of Congress, whose exclusive right it is to decide on the further measures of redress to be employed.

The length of time since some of the injuries have been committed, the repeated and unavailing applications for redress, the wanton character of some of the outrages upon the property and persons of our citizens, upon the officers and flag of the U. States, independent of recent insults to this Government and People by the late Extraordinary Mexican Minister, would justify, in the eyes of all nations, immediate war. That remedy however, should not be used by just and generous nations, confiding in their strength for injuries committed, if it can be honorably avoided; and it has occurred to me that, considering the present embarrassed condition of that country we should act with both wisdom and moderation, by giving to Mexico a fair and favorable opportunity to do, in the past, before we take redress into our own hands. To avoid all misconception on the part of Mexico, as well as to protect our national character from reproach, these opportunities will be given, with the swift-winged speed and full preparation to take immediate satisfaction if it should not be obtained on a repetition of the demand for it. To this end I recommend that an act be passed authorising reprisals, and the use of the naval force of the United States by the Executive against Mexico, to enforce them, in the event of refusal by the Mexican Government to come to an amicable adjustment of the matters in controversy between us, upon another demand thereof made from on board one of our vessels of war on the coast of Mexico.

But in the event that you shall fail to do so, I then demand that you place your charge before the House of Representatives, that they may institute the necessary proceeding to ascertain the truth or falsehood of our imputation, with a view to such further measures as justice may require.

If you will neither do justice yourself, nor place the matter in a position where justice may be done by the representatives of the people, I shall be compelled to resort to the only remedy left me, and, before I leave the city, give publicity to this letter, by which you will stand stigmatized as one who protected by his constitutional privilege, is ready to stab the reputation of others, without the magnanimity to do them justice, or the honour to place them in a situation to receive it from you.

Yours, &c.

ANDREW JACKSON.

ANDREW JACKSON.

Washington, Feb. 6, 1837.

Our cause of complaint against Mexico are as follows:—

Outrageous conduct of the authorities at Tobasco, toward Mr. Coleman, our consul there, and the officers, crew and cargo of the schooner Mexican, wrecked there.

An oppressive proceeding against Dr. Baldwin, a citizen of the United States, by the alcalde of Mensttelan in the colony of Coatzacoalcos.

The case of the schooner Topaz, of Maine, the master and mate of which were murdered, by Mexican soldiers, the crew imprisoned and the vessel captured and converted to the Mexican service.

The seizure of the American schooner Brazoria, and her forcible employ in the Mexican service, on which she was rendered unseaworthy and abandoned.

The seizure at Tobasco of the steamboat Hedalgo, schooner Constellation and brig John.

The imprisonment at Tobasco of Captain M. Ceiqe, of the schooner Industry.

The firing into the American brig Paragon, by the Mexican armed schooner Tampico.

The seizure and condemnation of the brig Union, of New York, at Campeachy.

The seizure of the schooner Martha, at Galveston, and the confinement and ill treatment of the passengers.

The seizure of the schooner Hannah and Elizabeth, of New Orleans, and the barbarous treatment of master, crew, and passengers.

The ill treatment of William Hallett and Salmon Hall, citizens of the U. S. at Metamoras.

The fine and detention of Mr. Slocum at the city of Mexico for carrying public dispatches to this Government.

The detention of the schooner Eclipse and ill treatment of her master and crew at Tobasco.

The detention of the schooner Compeer and other merchant vessels at Metamoras.

Other outrages and indignities are also complained of.

The President and Mr. Calhoun.

☞In the United States Senate, on the 9th inst. the subjoined extraordinary letter was sent to the Secretary by Mr. Calhoun, having been received by him from the President of the United States, calling Mr. Calhoun to account for words spoken in debate! The coarseness, vulgarity and impudence of Mr. Jackson is without a parallel.

Letter to Mr. Calhoun.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7th, 1837.

Sir,—In the Globe of the 6th inst. I find the report of a speech made by you on the 4th upon the land bill, which contains the following passages, viz:

"Was it not notorious that the President of the United States *himself* had been connected with the purchase of the public lands? Yes, the "experiment" (Mr. Calhoun delighted in the word) was the cause of speculation in public lands; and if the bill should not be passed, speculations could not go on, and the price of the public lands must remain depressed, or be reduced. He contended that every man could not but see that it would be utter ruin to those who had borrowed money to speculate in lands, if the system was not to go on." In a former part of your speech, as reported, you say: "The speculation which a particular state of things had given rise to, had been produced by the measures of this Government, not by the state of things; and should this bill be passed, it would only consummate their wishes," &c. &c. &c.

Knowing the liabilities of reporters to err, and that you have drawn and writing out the speeches of members of Congress, I have made enquiry in relation to the accuracy of this report, and have been furnished with certificates of gentlemen who heard your affirming that it is substantially correct.

You cannot but be aware, sir, that the imputations which your language conveys are calculated, if believed, to destroy my character as a man, and that the charge is one which, if true, ought to produce my impeachment as a public officer. If I caused the removal of the deposites for the base purpose of enriching myself or my friends by any of the results which may grow out of that measure, there is no term of reproach which I do not deserve, and no punishment known to the laws which ought not to be inflicted upon me. On the contrary, if the whole imputation, both as to motive and fact, be a fabrication and a calumny, the punishment which belongs to me, if guilty, is too mild for him who wilfully made it.

I am aware, sir, of the constitutional privilege under which this imputation is cast, forth, and the immunity which it secures. That privilege, in no degree may purpose to violate, however gross and wicked may have been the abuse of it. But I exercise only the common right of every citizen, when I inform you, that the imputations you have cast upon me are false in every particular, not having for the last ten years purchased any public land, or had any interest in such purchase. The whole charge, unless explained, must be considered the offspring of a morbid imagination or of sleepless malice.

I ask you, as an act due to justice, honour and truth, to retract this charge on the floor of the Senate, in as public a manner as it has been uttered—it being the most appropriate mode by which you can repair the injury which might otherwise flow from it.

But in the event that you fail to do so, I then demand that you place your charge before the House of Representatives, that they may institute the necessary proceeding to ascertain the truth or falsehood of your imputation, with a view to such further measures as justice may require.

If you will neither do justice yourself, nor place the matter in a position where justice may be done by the representatives of the people, I shall be compelled to resort to the only remedy left me, and, before I leave the city, give publicity to this letter, by which you will stand stigmatized as one who protected by his constitutional privilege, is ready to stab the reputation of others, without the magnanimity to do them justice, or the honour to place them in a situation to receive it from you.

Yours, &c.

ANDREW JACKSON.

The Hon. J. C. Calhoun, U. States Senate.

GENERAL NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Commerce of New York.—The value of foreign imports into New York in 1836, was $118,000,000. In 1835, it was only $88,000,000. The increase, therefore, in a single year, is $30,000,000.

According to the report of the Secretary of State, the number of seamen registered in the United States in 1836 was, natives, 5443; naturalized 93;—total, 5536.

A petition signed by more than 1400 hundred citizens of Pittsburgh, Pa. has been presented to the legislature, in favor of anelectoral law to disfranchise all children employed in manufacturing establishments.

A Fourth of July orator, wished to speak figuratively of the Pilgrim Fathers.—He therefore shouted, "They took their staffs in their hands, and set out on their journey across the boundless ocean."

The Cincinnati Post of 27th ult. says, "There are not less than one hundred thousand barrels of flour in the towns upon the Ohio river, from Pittsburgh to its mouth, waiting a clear river and a good stage of water to be sent to market."

A Scurvy Yankee Girl.—A Mrs. Marry Hillman, of Martha's Vineyard, has petitioned Congress for some gratuity in her favor, for the following reason: She states that when about 15 years of age, in 1776, residing at Martha's Vineyard, a British cruiser came in, and wanting a spar, managed to buy the only one to be had, which was then erected as a Liberty pole; that herself and two other girls, on the night previous to its intended removal, bored holes in the pole, filled them with gunpowder, and applying fire, split the pole to pieces, so that it was rendered useless to the enemy. Poor, and now 76, she asks for some small compensation for an act which she considers equal to falling a stand of colours from an invading enemy. The petition was referred.

A Noble Donation.—G. C. Delavan, Esq. of Albany, has made a donation to the Temperance Society of ten thousand dollars.

Deacon John Whitman, of East Bridgewater, is supposed to be the oldest man in Massachusetts. He will be 102 years of age next mouth.

Dayton, (Ohio.)—A statement prepared with some care, with a view to its use as a basis for legislative action, setting forth the trade, commerce, manufactures and business facilities of Dayton, is now lying before us. That flourishing town is going ahead, and extending its trade, domestic manufactories, and other business transactions" in fine style. It appears from this exhibit, that there are now in Dayton 29 mechanics' shops; 9 manufactories; 21 grocery and produce stores; 22 dry goods stores; with a department of the controversy between them can be effected without a resort to the measures I have felt it my duty to recommend, they may be assured of my co-operation in any other course that shall be deemed laudable and proper.

ANDREW JACKSON.

Washington, Feb. 6, 1837.

EXPUNGING PEN.

We would respectfully suggest that the particular goose which had the honor of allowing that quill to sprout upon its pinion should be sought out; that Mr. Audubon be employed to embalm that precious bird; and that it be placed over the chair of the President of the Senate, with a scroll from its bill bearing the following inscription:

I am the goose
That bore the wing,
That furnished the quill,
That was used for the pen,
That shed the ink,
That flowed from the pen
Around the page,
"That recorded the deed,
Of Andrew the First,
In breaking the law,
About the bank,
That was placed in the Bank,
Bank Biddle bad.

To which, when the next Vice President takes his seat, might be added underneath—

"There swims no goose so gray, but soon or late,
Will find some silly gander for a mate."

Treasury Circular.—This celebrated Circular was repealed in the Senate of the United States on Friday week last, by a vote of 41 to 5. This decisive vote annihilates Mr. Benton and his theory of an Exclusive Metallic Currency. Mr. Van Buren won't go back the reign of Experiments is happily at an end.

Both the Senators from Pennsylvania—Buchanan and McKean voted for the repeal of the Treasury Order, and for Mr. Clay's proposition that

"It is not lawful for the Secretary of the Treasury to make any discrimination in the funds receivable as Public Revenue."—*Carlisle Republican.*

Noble charity.—We published a few days since the case of a Indent of Bangor, Maine, in which he refused to take any rent, from his poor tenant, during this inclement season of winter. It appears however, that the elements of humanity, are still inactive and benevolent exercise in that favored place, as will be seen from the following account which we republish from the Bangor Whig:

"Instances of this cry, a few days since, was a load of wood to a *debtor* of his, but who was sick and destitute. Although the man had relations around him, who were able, no one offered to help him, or even to saw the wood. The donor was informed of the fact, and immediately went and sawed, and placed the wood in the house of the poor man.

This is highly praiseworthy and proves, that in this region, whose name ought to have been published, has a soul above the common herd of hard-hearted creditors, who seldom care, what amount of distress they inflict upon, so that they only get, what they call their own.—*N. Y. Transcript.*

Education.—The way they do things in Boston. By the reports of public schools in Massachusetts, it appears that all the boys in the city of Boston, between the age of 4 and 16, are in attendance at public or private schools, excepting 33. The whole number is estimated at 16,880.

Book Company.—It affords us the sincerest gratification to announce to our readers that the Legislature of this State has passed an act incorporating the Book Company. This will occasion feelings of joy in many hearts, and inspire our friends with renewed zeal in this excellent enterprise.—All difficulties in the way of its successful accomplishment are now happily removed, and the Executive Committee are determined to prosecute the matter with energy.—We hope that all those brethren who have held back in consequence of the want of a charter will now generously come forward and subscribe for stock. They now have a good opportunity of exhibiting the sincerity of their professed attachment to the undertaking. It is expected also, that all those subscribers who have not yet paid their instalments from an apprehended failure of our application to the Legislature, will now cheerfully comply with the conditions.

The agents also are particularly requested to collect and send to the Treasurer all the money collected in the various local districts. The charter is as ample as could have been expected and affords us every facility for conducting the business on a scale commensurate with the wants of the church. It is desirable that active operations be commenced forthwith and therefore all brethren feeling disposed to purchase stock are requested to announce it immediately.—*Lutheran Observer*

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,	PORTER,
BLACK,	PRESTON,
CALHOUN,	ROBBINS,
CLAY,	SHIELDS,
CLAYTON,	SMITH,
EWING,	SOUTHARD,
FRELINGHUYSEN,	SPRAGUE,
KENT,	SWIFT,
KNIGHT,	TOMLINSON,
LEIGH,	TYLER,
MANGUM,	WADDY,
WADDAMS,	WEAVER,
POINDEXTER,	WEBSTER—26.

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

List of the Black Knights:	
JOHN RUGGLES,	Maine.
JUDAH DANA,	Do.
HENRY HUBBARD,	N. Hampshire
JOHN PORTER,	Do.
JOHN M. NILES,	Connecticut
SILAS WRIGHT,	New York
N. P. TALLMADGE,	Do.
GARRETT DAY,	New Jersey
James Buchanan,	Penn'a.
WILLIAM C. RIVES,	Virginia.
BEDFORD BROWN,	N. Carolina
ROBERT STRANGE,	Do.
THOMAS MORRIS,	Ohio.
FELIX GRUNDY,	Tennessee
R. C. NICHOLAS,	Louisiana.
JOHN TIPTON,	Indiana.
ROBERT J. WALKER,	Do.
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.

No Expunger.

From the Frederick Herald of Feb. 11.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT.

On Wednesday last, the votes were counted in the presence of both Houses of Congress, and the following was announced by the Speaker, as the result—

FOR PRESIDENT OF THE U. STATES

For Martin Van Buren of York—	
If the votes of Michigan be counted	170
If the votes of Michigan be not counted	167
For William Henry Harrison, of Ohio	73
For Hugh Lawson White, of Tennessee	36
For Daniel Webster, of Massachusetts	14
For Willie P. Mangum, of North Carolina	11

The president of the Senate then announced the votes for Vice President of the United States, as reported by the tellers, as follows:

For R. M. Johnson of Kentucky,	
If the votes of Michigan be counted,	147
If the votes of Michigan be not counted,	144
For Francis Granger of New York,	77
For John Tyler, of Virginia,	23
For William Smith of Alabama,	23

The President of the Senate then announced that no election of Vice President had been made, and that R. M. Johnson and Francis Granger were the highest on the return.

Afterwards the Senate proceeded to elect a Vice President, when Richard M. Johnson received 33 votes and Francis Granger 17. Whereupon, R. M. Johnson was declared duly elected as Vice President of the United States.

Harrison and Anti-Masonry.—We hope we may be permitted to draw some distinction between the principles of Anti-Masonry and General Harrison, without being considered inimical to, or prejudiced against the hero of "Tippecanoe." We regret that in some parts of the State the very pioneers of our cause seem to have almost forgotten the devoted sentiments they once uttered, and to have bound themselves right or wrong, to the military car of the aged warrior. Why is it? Is the mantle of the prophet to fall, and do they wait to be covered by it? Are their hopes of office to be profitless. We wish to see the party known by its party name—by the name which has drawn thousands beneath its standard—the name of Anti-Masonry. We have no doubts but that many have merged in Harrisonism, nor in the name of any other man.

The measures of our excellent governor have rendered his administration popular, and our friends in other states rejoice at our prosperity; and the reason is, that Governor Ritner has firmly adhered to the sentiments of Joseph Ritner. His Anti-Masonry cannot be questioned, and even his enemies give him credit for preserving his own opinions, against every attack made upon them. Under these principles we have triumphed, and we cannot again, but suffer them to be extinguished, and nothing but defeat after defeat awaits the party.

We call upon the State Committee to take this matter in hand before it is too late; to call a convention immediately, and before the people are committed for any one. If that convention make a nomination, it will be found with the name of Anti-Masonry, and under it we may safely act. But at present, there is too much diversity of opinion in our ranks to permit a thought of success.

We would suggest to the old tried Anti Masons, the necessity of having an eye to the conduct of new recruits in the party.—Those may mean well, but enthusiasm sometimes carries them beyond discretion. We acknowledge the worth, patriotism, and popularity of General Harrison, but while we do so, we conceive no reason that the Anti-Masons should call themselves Harrisonites. If he should be selected as the Anti Masonic candidate, let him be supported as such, but no success can attend a Harrison party, or any other man's party.—[*Philadelphia Commonwealth.*

☞It would seem from the subjoined paragraph, from the Lancaster Union, that the most inveterate opponent of the present State Administration is a *Defaulter*—is now owing the State $2,912 21!

Defaulters to the State.—The Pennsylvania Telegraph of Tuesday last, publishes a list of persons, who held office under the administration of Gov. Wolf, and who were defaulters to the State, on the first of November last, in the aggregate sum of *Thirty-three thousand seven hundred and forty-seven dollars* five cents! The list comprises sixteen Collectors, among whom we notice the name of Thomas K. Smith, of Columbia, debited with $4,203,22;—ten Supervisors, four Superintendents, one Superintendent's Secretary, and one Commissioner's Clerk. *Wm. F. Packer*, one of the defaulting Supervisors, to the amount of $2,912,21 is now one of the editors of the "democratic" Keystone of Harrisburgh!

Late from Europe.—The Queen of Spain has issued a proclamation recognising the independence of the South American Republics.

A snow storm of unprecedented violence commenced in England on Christmas eve and continued for some days without intermission, causing an interruption very unusual in that country, to the means of communication between the provinces and the capital. We are sorry to add, that during the storm, a great number of shipwrecks occurred on the coast, and in some instances were attended with a melancholy loss of life.

The Legislative Chambers of France have commenced their session. The King had scarce delivered his speech on the occasion, when his life was again assailed by the hand of an assassin, which he again escaped!

Slight reference is made in the King's speech, to the happy settlement of the difficulties which had arisen between this Union and France. We conclude, from the allusion made in it to the state of Spain, that the French Government in determined not to interfere in the contest between parties in that distracted country.

The present French Ministry, from what has already occured in the Chambers, seem to be sorely vexed at the overturning of their places. Marshal Soult, it is said, will again come into office. M. Thiers has taken his seat on the *cote gauche*, and it is expected will be warm in his opposition to them, particularly on the ground of their non-interference in the affairs of Spain.

The inundations in Paris had subsided, and the inhabitants whose cellars had been filled with water, were busy in clearing them out. The American and English residents in Paris had held a meeting for the purpose of congratulating the King of his escape from this renewed attempt on his life.

In Spain, Gomez has returned with his forces to his intrenchments, which he having met with any serious check. Bilboa still holds out, though closely besieged by the Carlists.—*Phil. Inq.*

Important from Mexico.

☞Intelligence from Vera Cruz has been received, from which it appears that the news of the liberation of Santa Anna caused great rejoicing throughout Mexico. A proclamation was issued by the supreme Government to receive his Excellency, in the event of his landing at Vera Cruz, with all the honor due to him as President of the Republic." It was expected he would arrive at Vera Cruz about the middle of this month, and immediately re-appointed to the Presidency.

☞In the House, without petitions have been presented from Adams and other counties, praying for the repeal of the $5 33 law.

☞A bill providing for the election of a member to the Convention to amend the Constitution to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Mr. Caldwell, has passed the Legislature and received the signature of the Governor.

DIED,

At Harpers-Ferry, Va. on the 6th inst. Mrs. Sarah Payton Morgan, relict of Mr. Robert F. Middleton, aged about 70 years.

On the 8th inst. Mr. Jacob Menges, of Menallen township, in the 59th year of his age.

RELIGIOUS NOTICES.

☞On Sunday morning next, at half past 10 o'clock, a discourse will be delivered by the Rev. Dr. SCHMUCKER, in the English Lutheran Church, on the subject of Missionary Union, and the manner in which it was preserved between the Apostolic Churches. ☞Christians of all denominations are invited to attend.

☞There will also be preaching on Sunday next in the Methodist church, & in Mr. M'Lean's

STAR& REPUBLICAN BANNER.

BY ROBERT W. MIDDLETON.

GETTYSBURG, PA.

Monday, February 20, 1837.

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

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

☞Several errors occurred in the excellent letter of our Harrisburgh correspondent published last week. During our absence, it was handed to a friend to read, who pointed out the errors, but they were overlooked by those in the office.

C. K. will be given in our next.

Literary Notices.

Select Medical Library.—Number Four of this valuable Journal has been received. The papers composing this No. are of superior character —among them are «Littell on Diseases of the Eye» «Consumption;" «Treatment and Pathology of Dropsey;" «Continental Practice;" &c. The Library is Edited by John Bell, M. D., Lecturer on Anatomy and Medical Jurisprudence, &c. and published monthly by *Haswell, Barrington & Co.*, Philadelphia, at $10 per annum.

The Knickerbocker.—In another column will be found the "contents" of this periodical for February. On our first page will be found an article extracted from it in reference to Mrs. Sigourney's «Letters to Young Ladies." The poetical effusion on the same page should have also been extracted to the Knickerbocker. The present number is equal to its predecessors.

Littell's Museum.—The January number of this journal has just come to hand. The «contents," it will be seen, especially those articles entitled «Home of Poets," «State of Education in France" and «The Philosophy of Radical," promise to the reader much interesting information.

Graham's Book.—This highly interesting work increases in value since it has been placed under the direction of Mrs. Hale. The greater portion of the February number is composed of excellent original articles, from the Editor, (Mrs. Hale,) Miss Gooch, Mrs. Sigourney, Mrs. Kirkland, & others. It is also embellished with a likeness of Miss Lanson, one of the beautiest writers of the present day.

☞The Philadelphia *«National Enquirer»* has not been received at this office for the last two weeks. Has friend Lundy cut the list?

☞Several articles appear in our columns to-day which were omitted in our last, owing to our absence from the State.

Teachers Wanted.

☞Situations are offered to persons to take charge of SIX SCHOOLS in a healthy part of Virginia. About $300 per annum will be given to each. Enquire of the Editor of the Star.

Union Inn, Frederick.

☞Persons visiting Frederick will find comfortable quarters at this house, kept by Mr. William Cookerly. It will also be found a convenient part of the city to exhibit Carriages for sale.

Anniversary Celebration.

☞The Philomathean Society of Pennsylvania College celebrated its 84th anniversary in Christ Church on Friday evening last. There were two orations delivered on the occasion—the first by Mr. J. Scroggs, of Mechanicsburgh, Cumberland County, and the other by Daniel M. Sweaer, Esq. of this place. Mr. Schock acquitted himself very well, but Mr. Sweaer was excellent—highly creditable to his talents and acquirements. We hope it will be published. The exercises were enlivened by several pieces of Music by members of the Citizens' and College Bands.

The Laws in German.

☞The act recently passed by our Legislature providing for the publication of the Pamphlet Laws in the German language, authorizes the Treasurer of each county in the State to receive subscriptions for the same, from such German citizens desirous of procuring copies, would do well to leave their names with Dr. Jesse Gilbert previous to the 12th of March next.

☞Would it not become Mr. Penn, of Harrisburgh, Pennsylvania, to make more of the «milk of human kindness" in his denunciations of those who happen to differ with him? We desire to hold communion with none who have spoken slightingly of the principles of our party. We do not hold that to refuse to support our party *principles*, is apostacy. If we did, we had a fair opportunity at one time of berating the «lack of discretion" by the *immaculate* Editor of the Telegraph. We are willing to pass over his reproachful lengths to rescue old and tried friends. Our vessel has been saved from wrecking, and we are still willing to throw the rope to those who are yet tossing upon the billows of the storm. Heaven forbid that we should withhold from them a helping hand. We suggest the same course to the Editor of the Telegraph.

☞A duel was fought in the early part of last week, between Mr. Thomas Williams and Mr. Schley, Esq. of the Senate of Maryland, and William Cost Johnson, Esq. late a member of Congress from Frederick county, Md. After exchanging one «round» lead, the parties became reconciled! How disgraceful to our enlightened, intelligent men as Messrs. Schley and Johnson forgetting the respect they owe to their God, their country, their families, and yielding to the demands of *false honor!* Instead of «false honor» by their conduct, they have drawn upon them the ridicule and censure of the wise and good of all parties.

Just Remarks.

☞We cut the following from an excellent article in the Lancaster «Examiner & Herald." The justness of the remarks cannot but strike every reader. If it was right to permit the Agent of the Colonization Society to occupy the Hall, it certainly could not have been wrong for our friends to attend its use to the Agents of the Anti-Slavery Society.

It is known, we presume, to most of our readers that the friends of abolition assembling in Convention at Harrisburgh, for the purpose of forming a State Anti-Slavery Society, on the 31st ultimo. On the 1st inst. a respectful application was made to the House of Representatives for the use of their Hall, on that and the succeeding evening, for the purpose of lecturing on Abolition.—This gave rise to a most violent debate, and the use of the Hall was denied them by a vote of 54 to 27.

We are at a loss to account for this singular decision. But a few days previous, the Hall had been granted to Mr. Elliott Cresson, who occupied it for two successive evenings in lectures on Colonization, and we can see no valid reason why it should be denied to those who were the friends of Abolition. It is admitted on all hands that the Abolition Convention contained a number of the most respectable and deserving men of the State; many, if not a majority of them being members of the Society of Friends—than whom a more honest and upright set of men exists no where, and their right, as citizens and tax-payers of the Commonwealth, to the use of the Hall of the people, was fully equal to that of the Colonizationists. The conduct of the House of Representatives in excluding them from the use of the Hall, was unjust, illiberal and tyrannical in the extreme, and should receive the condemnation of every friend of freedom of thought and speech. It is conduct that cannot be justified under any pretence whatever. We have in fact seen no justification attempted, nothing in the nature of an apology offered in a paper edited at the seat of government by a son of New England, who has, we fear, in this instance as in several others sacrificed his own honest convictions of right and wrong, in order to accomplish selfish and unworthy purposes. We rejoice that no son of Pennsylvania has been found to approve of this attack upon the dearest and most inestimable right of freemen.—*Lancaster Examiner.*

Democratic Herald—Congress.

☞We have received several Nos. of the «Democratic Herald" of Philadelphia since it has been ushered into a mitigated existence. Small in the largest size, is printed at $5 per annum, and we believe we risk nothing in saying that it is decidedly the most valuable, independent paper of the "party." Mr. Tuck is publisher.

From a late letter of its Washington correspondent we cut the following paragraph. Whitney, it will be recollected, refused to testify, and that too in the custody of the House to answer for a contempt of its Committee—

"WASHINGTON, Feb, 13,

"WHITNEY is in custody. What punishment he ought to receive, and what he will receive are different questions. If instructed from Government and Banks, he would be consigned to a Penitentiary. But now he may be glorified as a Patriot, or canonized as a Devil-God! Oh! my country how art thou fallen!—Would to heaven that Mr. Jefferson had lived to see the combination of Deposite Banks, the Public Treasury, and *Land Speculations!*—What would he then have said of a *Surplus Revenue!*—At present you must look for nothing from CONGRESS, which is corrupt to the core as it respects a majority, against these devouring abuses of these degenerate times."

☞From the following paragraph, from the Harrisburgh Telegraph, it will be seen that our fears have not been altogether idle this winter—having passed no less than THIRTEEN BILLS! A pretty good winter's *work for only $40,000 of the People's money!*

Speedy Legislation.—Mr. English, a member of the committee appointed to compare bills and present them to the Governor, declared on the floor of the House on Saturday, that the Legislature had passed thirteen bills, including appropriations. This would make about one bill a week, not according two pages, since they have been in session. This unprecedented speed in legislation is the most irrefragable evidence of the capacity, talents and business habits of the House. It is an evidence that cannot be mistaken by the people abroad any more than it is by those who visit here.

FROM HARRISBURGH.

Adjournment of the Legislature. Senator McKean's Letter! Union of Rail Road Companies! &c. &c.

Correspondence of the Gettysburgh Star.

HARRISBURGH, Feb. 16th, 1837.

In consequence of the multiplicity of my engagements during the last week I was prevented from attending the sitting of the Senate as constantly as I could have wished, and I shall on that account be compelled to give you a short and probable at best but an imperfect sketch of the business transacted in that branch of the Legislature within that time. To witness the proceedings of the House of Representatives and afterwards to embody them in a letter for publication, would be a task too great for any one, and you will understand me as referring only to this particular House, the component parts of which you, as well as your readers, are already well acquainted with, and which I have ever considered the creation of independence of mind and action, as that which is exhibited from day to day by the Masonic members and their *whippers-in* of all the other parties of the day, with the exception of the pure and princip