Investigating Committee.

☞We find it impossible this week to lay before our readers the whole of the report of the Investigating Committee, in relation to the public defalcations, we have however given them the conclusions of the Committee upon that subject, which embraces the most important information contained in the report. From the preparatory remarks of the Committee, we find that its first procedure after organizing itself for the business, was to visit the city of New York to inspect there in person, the original record and papers of the Custom house, in conjunction with the examination of such witnesses as might be supposed capable of shedding light upon the inquiry involved by the defalcations of Mr. Swartwout. Concurrently with the investigation of Mr. Swartwout's defalcations, those of Wm. M. Price, late District Attorney in New York were also under kept in view; and the fullest practicable extent of information respecting them has been obtained, and will be found in the sequel of this report.

But, in the execution of so much of this part of their inquiries as related to the present collector of New York, they were compelled to encounter most unexpected obstacles, interposed by the collector him self, and setting at defiance the authority delegated to the Committee by the House.

The facts connected with the baffled endeavors of the Committee to obtain information for the House and country from this officer of the executive branch of the Government, who is in immediate charge of and entrted over public moneys that *"equal nearly two thirds of the whole amount"* collected from customs "in all the United States," will be more specifically detailed in a subsequent portion of this report.

Before proceeding to the general topics of this report, as already laid down, it may be proper here to express the deep sense of disappointment and regret which the Committee feel, in not being able to communicate to the House one document that was called for at an early day, regarded as having an important bearing on the inquiry, and on the judgment which the House might form on the subject of defalcations among public officers, and the causes which have led to their multiplication. It will be perceived from the following letter, that the Committee availed itself of the earliest period after their organization to make a call upon the President to furnish a list of the defalcations that have taken place among collectors, receivers, and disbursing officers of public money, and other public officers, since the 4th of March 1829, showing the amount of each, &c.

More than four weeks have now elapsed since that call was made upon the President, and the only information which the Committee has obtained to report upon to the House is contained in the following letter of the distinguishing feature of which information is, *"no such document"* has been in the whole remainder of the session will be required to answer the call. From this the Committee are compelled reluctantly to infer, either—

1st. That the accounts and records of the several departments, in general, are so incomplete and defective as not to exhibit, without great labor and delay, the true relations of collectors, receivers and disbursers of the public money, and of other officers of the government, as to distinguish debtors from defaulters, and creditors from both.

2d. That the number of the defaulters have multiplied so rapidly since 1829, under the system of accountability pursued towards collectors, receivers and disbursers of the public money, and other officers, as to preclude the practicability of receiving a correct account of their defalcations, with all the clerical force at the command of those departments, under existing laws and appropriations.

If either inference be just, (and none other of equal weight seems to be fairly deducible from the letter of the Secretary of the Treasury,) it manifests a laxity of administration which demands the earliest application of suitable remedies within the reach of Congress and of the country.

PART I.—*The Defalcations of Mr. Swartwout.*

1. THE EXTENT OF MR. SWARTWOUT'S DEFALCATIONS.

Conclusions of the Committee.

1st. That Mr. Swartwout is a defaulter to Government, as appears by his own returns, as adjusted from time to time at the Treasury department, in the sum of *ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED & TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND FIVE DOLLARS AND SIXTY-NINE CENTS.*

2d. That this amount of indebtedness has accumulated upon the face of the quarterly accounts regularly returned by him for adjustment at the Treasury Department, without the omission of any of either items, debit or credit thereon, until it became an absolute defalcation.

2. THE DURATION OF MR. SWARTWOUT'S DEFALCATIONS.

Conclusions of the Committee.

1st That all moneys received by Mr. Swartwout as collector prior to 1837, were regularly accounted for by him in his quarterly returns to the Treasury Department.

2d That so much of all moneys received by Mr. Swartwout prior to 1837, and accounted for to the Treasury Department in his quarterly returns, as were not paid by him into the Treasury, were retained by him under the tacit acquiescence of the accounting officers of the Treasury; and regularly carried forward, debited to himself, in the balance of each subsequent quarterly account rendered by him to the Treasury Department to the close of the term of his office.

3d That his omission to carry a debit to himself of the moneys received by him from the Treasury or from other sources, prior to 1837, to the close of accounts kept only at the custom house, called his *cash accounts*, and his carrying a debit to himself of any such items to any other class of accounts kept *only at the custom house*, called *suspense and unsettled accounts*, or by any other name, would not operate as a concealment, innocent or fraudulent, from the Treasury Department, of the true cash balance in his hands. *First*, because neither his cash account, nor his suspense and unsettled account, nor any other subordinate account, kept at the custom house, was ever exhibited to, or formed the basis of any quarterly settlement made by him with the accounting officers of the Treasury. *Secondly*, because, in his quarterly accounts settled at the Treasury Department the aggregate and true balance of all his subordinate accounts kept at the custom house, including both his cash account and suspense account, was uniformly prior to 1837, carried into his quarterly account under the items of *"cash and unsettled accounts."*

4th That the defalcations of Mr. Swartwout by means of fraud and false returns, commenced in 1837, and not sooner, and have existence since that period; and the defalcations thus accruing, added to the moneys previously retained by him, according to his returns to the Treasury Department, and by the all-at-sequenceee of the officers of that Department until the close of his term of office, constitute the aggregate of his defalcations at the *present period.*

3. THE CAUSES OF MR. SWARTWOUT'S DEFALCATIONS.

CAUSE I. The irresponsibility of Mr. Swartwout in pecuniary character at the time of his appointment to office.

Conclusions of the Committee.

1st. That the time of Mr. Swartwout's appointment, and of his reappointment to office, he was wholly irresponsible in pecuniary reputation, and was involved in debt.

2d. That at the time of his appointment, and reappointment, and for the whole period he was in office, he was notoriously engaged in large and hazardous speculations, and deeply embarrassed by them.

3d. That his pecuniary responsibility and consequent involvements by hazardous speculations, constitute one of the primary causes of his defalcations to the Government.

Cause II. Culpable disregard of law, and neglect of official duty, by the late naval officer at New York.

Conclusions of the Committee.

1st. That the late naval officer at the port of New York, throughout the term of his service, from 1829 to 1838, wholly disregarded the requirement of the law prescribing the duties of his office.

2d. That said naval officer for the same period, wholly disregarded the instructions of the Comptroller of the Treasury of November 10, 1821.

3d. That said naval officer, by so disregarding the requirements of law and the instructions of the Treasury Department, culpably neglected to keep the *accounts* of his office, and thereby rendered the office nugatory as a check on the accounts of the collector.

4th That if the duties of said naval officer, as authorized and directed by existing laws, had been executed with proper care and vigilance, they would have rendered it impracticable for any fraud or error in any of the accounts of the collector of said port to escape immediate detection.

5th. That the culpable disregard of the plain requirements of law and of Treasury instructions prescribing the duties of naval officers, by said naval officer, and his continued neglect of official duty, is a primary cause of the enormous defalcations of the late collector of New York.

Cause III. Culpable disregard of law and neglect of official duty by the First Auditor of the Treasury.

Conclusions of the Committee.

1st That the First Auditor of the Treasury has been guilty of culpable disregard of law and neglect of duty, in examining and certifying the correctness of the accounts of the late collector at New York without having compared them thoroughly with the vouchers accompanying the same, and also in transmitting said accounts to the First Comptroller, certified, for revision while the most important vouchers there were retained in his own office.

2d. That no fraud practised by the said collector in his weekly returns of cash to the Secretary of the Treasury could elude the just and true settlement of the accounts of said collector at the Auditor's office, as said weekly returns form no part of the basis of the settlement of said quarterly accounts by the Auditor, and therefore furnish no apology for the neglect of the Auditor to examine the same throughly.

3d That without the aid of the register of bond accounts of collectors, required by law and Treasury circular to be kept by the Auditor, to enable him to detect frauds and defalcations, if any exist, the said Auditor could have throughly examined the Swartwout's quarterly accounts during any quarter said Auditor had been in office, as the original quarterly accounts were retained, against law, in his office, and furnished the same means of comparison as a register would have furnished.

4th. That, in the culpable disregard of law and neglect of duty, as aforesaid, by said Auditor, is found a primary cause why the defalcations of said Swartwout in 1837, and subsequently, escaped early detection, and have resulted in the probable loss of the public treasury.

Cause IV. Culpable disregard of law, and neglect of duty by the late and present Comptrollers of the Treasury.

Conclusions of the Committee.

1st. That the late Comptroller of the Treasury, George Wolf Esq. now Collector of the port of Philadelphia, was guilty, while in said office of Comptroller, of culpable disregard of law and neglect of duty, both in regard to the bonds of collectors filed in his office, and the records thereof required by law, and in selling and certifying to the Register the accounts of Samuel Swartwout, late collector without having transmitted to him the vouchers therefor required by positive injunctions of law.

2d. That the present Comptroller of the Treasury has been guilty of culpable disregard of law and neglect of duty in settling and certifying to the Register the quarterly accounts of Samuel Swartwout late collector, without having transmitted to him the vouchers therefor required by positive injunction of law.

3d. That the said Comptroller is also guilty of culpable disregard of law and neglect of duty—1st. In not having sought and ascertained from the invoices and appraisements at the custom house, either through the Solicitor of the Treasury or otherwise, the true amount of Swartwouts claim upon the 201,000 dollars retained by him in going out of office, as suggested in the letter of the district attorney that was before him, dated April 25, 1838. 2d. In not causing the accounts of said Swartwout to be *forthwith* stopped, or instituting measures therefor immediately on the neglect of said Swartwout to return and settle his accounts at the expiration of the time allowed him by law for that purpose, to wit: on the early part of July, 1838. 3dly. In continuing the same neglect, and forbearing to issue warrants of distress against said Swartwout and his sureties from the 31st of August, 1838, when apprised by the letter of the First Auditor that said accounts still remained unsettled, until the month of November, when the detection of Swartwout's larger defalcation was communicated from New York.

4th. That the administration of it is not chargeable with signal inefficiency as well as neglect of duty, as renders nugatory, many of the most important checks upon the First Auditor, and collectors, receivers, and disbursers of the public moneys, which the laws creating and regulating its duties contemplated and have sufficiently provided.

5th. That in said disregard of law and neglect of duty by the said Comptrollers, and in efficacy of the office as now administered, is to be found a primary cause of the immense defalcations of the late collector at the port of New York, and consequent loss of the public money.

Cause V. The discontinuance of the use of banks as depositories of the public moneys, and permitting the same to accumulate in the hands of Mr. Swartwout.

Cause VI. The negligence and failure of the Secretary of the Treasury to discharge his duty, as the head of the Treasury Department, charged by law with the superintendence of the collection of the revenue.

Conclusions of the Committee.

1st. That, of late years, important books of records, designed to contain a condensed statement of the accounts and liabilites of collectors of custom weekly monthly and quarterly, have been permitted to fall into disuse in the department of the Secretary of the Treasury, and thereby render gaugy many of the essential checks upon the defalcations of that class of officers arising from existing laws and Treasury regulations.

2d. The negligence and failure of the Secretary of the Treasury to discharge his duty, as the head of the Treasury Department, charged by law with the superintendence of the collection of the revenue, and his want of a correct appreciation of the law named receive in the supervisedance of the collection of the public revenues, and compel to them, are justly regarded as a primary cause of the escape from detection, for so long a period, of the immense defalcations of the late collector at the port of New York.

3d. That the Secretary of the Treasury has been wanting in a proper discharge of his duty in office, in permitting Samuel Swartwout, late collector of New York, quietly to retain the sum of 201,000 dollars on his being out of office, under pretext of undemnifying himself against claims of importers for duties paid him under protest, and liable by him to be refunded, while it was known to the Secretary of the Treasury, within a few weeks thereafter, that said Swartwout was neglecting to refund such protest money, as he claimed to do, and that the same were being refunded, from necessity, out of other accruing resources of the Government by said Swartwout's successor in office.

4th. That the Secretary of the Treasury has been wanting in a proper discharge of his duty in office in permitting the present collector at New York to retain under his own control, and subject to his own uncommingled with said collector's private funds, large and accumulating sums of the public money collected for duties paid under protest, and against the declared opinion of said Secretary, and the declared opinion of the Attorney General of the United States on the subject, also against the former usages of the Department, and instead of causing the same to be paid into the Treasury of the United States.

PART II.—THE DEFALCATIONS OF WILLIAM M. PRICE.

Conclusions of the Committee.

1st. That William M. Price, as district attorney, is a defaulter to the Government in a large sum.

2d. That his defalcations are attributable to the notorious irresponsibility and want of character of said Price at the period of his appointment and reappointment, and during his entire term of office, and to the continued neglect of a proper and efficient discharge of duties at the office of Solicitor of the Treasury by the late and present incumbents of that office.

PART III.—The Correctness of the Returns which have been made by the present Collector and Naval Officer of the Port of New York, respectively.

Conclusions of the Committee.

1st. That the returns of the collector of customs at the port of New York have not been correct, as they have not all times embraced, as paid into the public Treasury, the moneys received by him for unascertained duties, and at no time for duties paid under protest.

2d. That said collector, in his returns, has violated the instructions of the Treasury Department; has put as defiance the duties assigned him by the Secretary of the Treasury; has repudiated the official decision of the responsible law officer of the Executive department; and is guilty of an illegal retentionand use of the public money, in the amount then held by him for protest and unascertained duties.

3d. That the Committee has been prevented from ascertaining what is the extent of the illegal retention and use of the public money by the present collector of the port of New York, either in funds collected under protest, or for unascertained duties, or in other funds collected by him, because of his refusal to exhibit his own book of cash depositories in bank, or to permit the banks used by him as depositories to exhibit their accounts of his deposits.

4th. That the public moneys received by said collector are mingled with his own moneys on deposit, and are not kept by him, nor by his banks of deposit, distinct and separate from the individual moneys of said collector and of his "professional clients," and his returns cannot, therefore, be founded upon them as a separate and independent fund, belonging to Government, though it, his keeping.

5th. That, as appears by the letter of Gorham A. Worth, the cashier of the City Bank, the present collector has deposited public moneys in his hands with a bank which could not, under the law prohibiting the selection of any bank as a depository which has issued notes under the denomination of five Dollars, be selected by the Secretary of the Treasury himself as depository of moneys carried to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States.

6th. That the mode adopted and practised by the said collector, of keeping and making returns of the public money collected by him for unascertained duties and under protest, in the language of the present Attorney General of the United States, "could never have been the intention of Congress," and being "*informal*," it has made it at the option of the same high officer, "the interest of the collector to postpone the ascertainment of duties, as in the mean time he would have the uncontrolled use of the money." It has, also, in fulfillment of the reasoning of the attorney General, *increased* "the danger of faithfulness in the collector, by permitting large amounts of money to remain with him, and under his individual control, instead of being in the Treasury of the United States."

7th. That in the language of the Attorney General, "the tenor and spirit of all our revenue laws seem to inculcate the idea that the intention of Congress has, at all times, been, that money collected for revenue should be promptly placed in the Treasury, and not be permitted to remain in the hands of the collector."

8th. That the returns of the naval officer, in New York have not been correct, as it is found in the testimony of the present deputy naval officer, "that the naval officer *under its existing system* was not enabled to determine what amount of bonds has been taken by the collector for duties in any quarter, or who are the parties to said bonds, or the dates of said bonds, or when they are payable, or when such bonds are paid, or whether the collector does or does not account truly for such bonds."

General Intelligence.

The Texan Congress, at its recent session, passed a law visiting persons, carrying concealed weapons, with severe punishment; but unfortunately for the wisdom of Congress and the lives of the inhabitants, the unarmed portion of that country, venture to strut through their principal towns, with terrific Bowie knife, *unconceaded*, being openly hung at their sides like a sword!

There are 19 volunteer corps in Berks county—4 of which are cavalry, 3 artillery, 3 rifle, and 9 infantry.

A yankee down east, has written to Governor Fairfield, urging him to issue proposals for talk ng New Brunswick!

The Cincinnatians are great *porkers*, and get as jealous as the nation, when they hear of bigger hogs than themselves!

The editor of the Lancaster Intelligencer is a perfect beauty: He visited Philadelphia a week or two since, and broke two of the splendid show windows in Chesnut street, by looking at them!

The best cure for corns, that we have seen lately is the following: Rub your corns over with the strongest cheese you can get, and let three or four hungry mice nibble them for a night or two. If the mice perform well, the corns will entirely disappear!

Mr. Wise.

The following sketch of HENRY A. WISE, of Virginia, is from a number of the Democratic Review of last year:

"But hear—Mr Speaker!"—and a young man has caught his eye. It is Henry A. Wise, from Accomack, Virginia. Where his personal popularity is unbounded. He is tall, pale and thin, about 30 years of age, perhaps not so much. He dresses like an old man, though his general appearance is very youthful. He is very slovenly in his apparel, his coat hanging like a miller's bag upon his shoulders. His face, I said is pale, and he white cravat tends to its appearance of livid pallor; but he has a dark and brilliant eye, which seems sometimes to flash unearthly rays of light over his whole countenance. His hair is light, and always in a disordered state. All his predominant characteristics are brought out with great rapidity—firmness, impetuosity, a disdain for honeyed words, fierce sarcasm and invective—all gather into a lurid frown, and wake up the reporters. His force lies in inenvective; then he becomes, to those whose party sympathies follow his own excited train of feeling, thrilling; his pale, and excited face, his firm and compact head thrown back, his small bony hand clenched in the air, or with a forefinger quivering, as if all the passion of the orator was concentrated there—his eyes brilliant and fixed, his voice high, yet sonorous—impress a picture too vivid to be easily erased from the mind. A stranger of his own party, on coming into the Hall for the first time, at such a moment, compared his appearance to that of a corpse, galvanized.

From the Examiner and Herald.

TO JOSEPH RITNER.

BY MRS. LYDIA JANE PIERSON.

Go, then, to thy calm home in peace,
As the bright sun goes down at night,
While shadowy earth and darkening seas
Are mourning the departing light.

The fresh plants droop, and the bright flowers,
Fold up their soft and fragrant leaves;
The birds sit silent in the bowers,
And the sweet evening songsters grieves.

And every spective thing grows sad,
And the bright orb withdraws his ray;
And Nature, late so bright and glad,
To tears puts on her robes of grey.

Yet, though in tears and mourning clad,
A hemisphere is bathed in night,
The sun forever bright and glad,
Retains his majesty and might:

So, though from our politic sky
Thy glorious presence pass away,
Thy spirit's innate majesty
Around thee sheds immortal day.

Thou art as happy, and as great,
Within thine own domestic bower,
As in the senate Hall of State,
Clothi'd in the panoply of power.

No glittering pomp, or titled name,
Could add to native worth like thine:
So no reverse can quench thy fame,
Or blight the joys by love entwine.

While the immortal mind endures,
And Genius bends at Learning's shrine,
Her native gratitude assures
A wreath of blasson'd laurel thine.

Thou hast unhar'd with liberal hand,
The portals of a world of light,
Whence beams upon this shadowy land
The dawning of celestial light.

And as the day grows broad and clear,
And spreads drink the qui kening light,
Thy memory shall become more dear,
The record of thy fame more bright.

Malignity shall strive in vain,
To blot thine annals in her rage;
Truth shall efface her every stain,
And your her radiance over the page.

And Genius, rising in her might
From all the chains of darkness free,
Shall on that page of glory write
Eternal gratitude to thee.

And thou, in the dear rural home,
Shalt feel a godlike happiness,
While on thee the blessings come
The pauses of a people's bliss;

The tribute of a nation freed
From ignorance's degrading thrall,
Must be the dearest, holiest meed
That to a patriot's heart can fall.

Go, then, to thy glad home in peace,
With ever-living garlands crowned;
Which Science from her holy bays,
Shall twine for thy temples round

Thou'st labor'd for thy country's good!
And served her ever manfully!
And she in generous gratitude
Shall ever cherish and remember Thee!

And when from dear domestic joys
Again she calls her RITNER forth,
We'll hail with joyful heart and voice,
The Sunrise to our shouting earth!

General Harrison.

Amid strife of party feuds, it is grateful to meet with a patriot who will willingly do what such a picture as the subjoined, without reference to faction or its designs. It is from the pen of the Rev Timothy Flint of Salem, Massachusetts, and may be found in his "Recollections of the Last Ten Years," published in 1826, before the name of the Patriarch of North Bend was mentioned in connexion with the Presidency:

"My duties and my travels occupied me in such a manner, a to allow me few opportunities for making individual estimates of characters. Chance brought me in contact, and afterwards into considerable intimacy, with a gentleman, of whom very different portraits had been drawn, General Harrison. Of his urbanity, and general hospitality and kindness, I entertain the most grateful recollections. I could desire no attentions no facilities for discharging my duty, which he did not proffer me. His house was open for public worship. He kept an open table, to which every visitor was welcomed. The table was loaded with abundance, and with substantial good cheer, especially with different kinds of game. In these respects his house strongly reminded me of the pictures, which have been left us respecting the old English hospitality. There is something imposing in the dignified simplicity of his manner. In the utter want of all show, and insignia, and trappings, there is something which finely comports with the severe plainness of republicanism. On a fine farm, in the woods, his house was open to all the neighbors, who entered without ceremony, and were admitted to assume a footing of entire equality."—*Atlas.*

LOCO FOCO ORATORY.—We publish in our legislative report of Friday last a speech of Senator MILLER of Adams, in defence of the committee of Safety, of which he was a member. It was a great occasion, of Loco Foco oratory. The gallant Senator must have been inspired when he delivered it. Patrick Henry himself would have shrunk into insignificance could he have arisen from the dead to witness and hear this intellectual effort.—*Harrisburg Intel*

Gen. Harrison appears to be rapidly gaining strength as a candidate for the Presidency, in Virginia and Kentucky.

☞ *From Harrisburg.*

From our Harrisburg Correspondent.

HARRISBURG, March 23, 1839.

MR. PAXTON:—Yesterday I wrote you that the improvement bill was voted down, afterwards Mr. Flenniken in his place offered the Resolution which I have directed to you, amounting to three millions one hundred and forty-five thousand dollars. Two millions and seventy thousand dollars to be applied to repairs of the public works by the Canal Commissioners. Amendments were offered to the two first resolutions, but were cut off by a call of the previous question, which was sustained, and the resolutions together with the third were passed and sent to the Senate for concurrence. There is no doubt but that the Senate will reduce the sums for repairs very considerably. The blank in the third resolution was filled in as it was done in the one-sent yea, after the above resolutions were adopted a resolution authorizing the Governor to subscribe for shares in the Union Canal to the amount of four hundred thousand dollars which was adopted—and by another resolution he was authorized to subscribe $25,000 to the Danville and Pottsville Rail Road, here the improvement scene ended, having appropriated three millions five hundred and seventy thousand dollars for those specified purposes.

Resolution to provide for the repairs of the Canals and Railroads and to continue the Improvements of the State.

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met. That the following sums be and they are hereby specifically appropriated to the purpose hereinafter mentioned to wit:

For the completion of the railway to avoid the inclined plane at Columbia, the sum of	$39,000
For commencement of reservoirs on the eastern and western sides of the Allegheny mountains, and for other new work on finished lines of canal and railway the sum of	100,000
For dispensing with wooden rails and flat bars and substituting the edge or T and wherever the same may be necessary on the Columbia and Portage railroads, the sum of	407,000
For purchasing new locomotive engines and ropes for the Columbia and Portage railroads,	144,000
For repairs required on the different lines of canal and railroads, on the first day of February one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine,	1,000,000
To pay debts due for repairs other than the breach at Huntingdon,	300,000
For damages pay of canal commissioners, pay of engineers not connected with the extensions	80,000
Resolved. That the sum of five hundred thousand dollars be and the same is hereby appropriated to the North Branch division of the Pennsylvania canal	500,000
The further sum of five hundred thousand dollars to the Erie extension of the Pennsylvania canal	500,000
And the further sum of seventy-five thousand dollars to the Sinnamahoning division of the Pennsylvania canal	75,000

Resolved, That the governor be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to borrow on personal loan the sum of $3,145,000 at an interest not exceeding five per cent per annum, payable half yearly, and to be reimbursed at any time after the first day of July, one thousand eight hundred and sixty eight, and he shall issue negotiable certificates of stock for the same transferable on the books of the commonwealth at the Bank of Pennsylvania, by the owner or owners of the same and upon such transfer new certificates shall be issued by the auditor general, and shall be countersigned by the president and cashier of said bank, to the new holder or holders, and the interest on said stock shall be paid at the state treasury, the Bank of Pennsylvania, or at Philadelphia or elsewhere as may be agreed upon by the governor and the original purchaser of the stock; which sum shall be paid to and vested in the sinking fund to be applied for the purposes of this act.

Town Meeting.

Pursuant to Public Notice a large meeting of the Citizens of the Borough was held at the Court House, on Monday evening the 25th inst. The meeting being organized by appointing BERNHART GILBERT, Esq. President, and GEORGE LITTLE, Secretary.

On motion of T. STEVENS, Esq. *Resolved*, That the Town Council be respectfully requested to repeal the Ordinance taxing Dogs.

Resolved, That they be requested to pass such laws or ordinances, to regulate the confining or killing of Dogs as they may deem necessary to protect our citizens from the depredations of Hydrophobia.

On motion of GEORGE SNYDER, Esq.

Resolved, That the Town Council be requested to pass an ordinance prohibiting all Dogs of Bitches from running at large for the space of Forty Days and if any are found at large within that time without a muzzle, so as effectually to prevent their biting, they shall be killed and a reward of Fifty Cents paid therefor, either by the Owner or Borough, and that the Council be requested to take immediate action on this resolution.

Resolved, That the proceedings be published in the papers of the Borough.

B. GILBERT, Pres't.
GEORGE LITTLE, Secretary.

We see it stated in one of our exchange paper that eighty six papers in Pennsylvania have the HARRISON flag at the head of their editorial columns, while but *five* have raised the banner of CLAY! A Philadelphia Clay paper, however, rees in this no evidence of the superior popularity of GEN. HARRISON, but consoles himself with the idea that the Harrison presses are *eighty four boats*, while the Clay presses are *seventy four!—Free Press.*

GETTYSBURG STAR

GETTYSBURG, PA.
Tuesday, April 2, 1839.

DEMOCRATIC ANTI MASONIC NOMINATIONS

FOR PRESIDENT,
Gen. Wm. Henry Harrison.
FOR VICE PRESIDENT,
Daniel Webster.

REMOVAL.

The Office of the "STAR & BANNER" has been removed this week, and is now situated near the Court House, and immediately opposite the Apothecary Store of S. H. Buehler, Chambersburg Street; entrance up stairs.

To the Patrons of the Star.

☞The present number commences the TENTH year since the "Star" was first established in Gettysburg and scarcely three months have elapsed since the present Editor assumed the arduous and responsible duties attendant upon the publication of a newspaper, devoted to the principles of Anti Masonry, and opposed to the present ruinous Administration of our National, and State Government. To our numerous friends, who have during that short period, expressed their approbation of and sanctioned our best though inexperienced endeavours to promote the interests of our common cause, we would say, that to the utmost of our abilities the interests of that cause shall continue to be supported and established; and if industry and a strict attention to the duties devolving upon us, merit and receive their commendation, they shall at all times be brought into requisition to obtain that purpose. To our new patrons (and we are happy to state that we have a goodly number of them) as well as to the old ones, we would say, that as the New Volume commences, our exertions shall be redoubled to make our paper both in a Literary, Miscellaneous and Political point of view, still more worthy of their generous patronage.

Respectfully yours
ROBERT S. PAXTON.

☞ Those of our Subscribers who intend removing their places of residence on or about the first of April, will please inform us where they wish their papers to be sent after that time.

☞The report of the Committee and other important matter have crowded out Junius this week, we will probably find room for it in our next.

☞We intended to publish the whole of the appointments made by the late Baltimore Conference, this week, we find however, that we will have but a sufficiency of room to publish those of the North Baltimore District in which the Gettysburg circuit is included.

NORTH BALTIMORE DISTRICT.—*A. Griffith, P. E.*—North Baltimore—C. B. Tippett, J. Poisal. Great Falls—T. B. Sargent, A. A. Reese. Harford—W. Pentyman, R. Emory. Shrewsbury—Isaac Collins, F. A. Harden. York—John L. Gibbons, Nicholas Sanisin—T. C. Thornton. Carlisle Circuit—S. McMullin, J. Wheeler. Gettysburg—H. Furlong, J. M. Jones. Patapsco—W. H. Coffin, T. Sewell. Libertytown—Thomas H. W. Monroe, R. Barry. Frederick City—J. H. Brown—Frederick Circuit—J. Cleary, T. A. Morgan. Montgomery—Richard Brown, J. W. Crouch. Cadoras Mess.—Oliver Eges.

Next Baltimore Annual Conference to be held in Georgetown, March 11, 1840.

☞ The last "Compiler," contains an article on the subject of the dismissal of William M'Clean, as a teacher, from one of the Public Schools. The dismissal of this man, is denominated an "act of tyranny," on the part of the School Directors; and it is alledged that the latter acted in the matter, without any fault having being found, with the person dismissed. From the whining tone of this article, we presume it was written by the party himself; and we are the more inclined to believe so, as the editor of the "Compiler," has, on more than one occasion refered to the delinquencies of the individual in question; and he can hardly help but know, that daily complaints were made, against the continuance of this man, in any responsible public station.

The Directors, or a portion of them at least, were not unaware of the impropriety of the example of rewarding, or of exposing any trust, or confidence in such men, as have been unfaithful or dishonest, in the performance of any public trust or duty. In the appointment of this individual, this principle was overlooked; and although often brought to the minds of the Directors, by citizens of the county, they neglected for a time—we suppose through a natural repugnance to disoblige or offend—to do that which was obviously a duty, and which public opinion required.

About the competency of the individual, we shall not *now* speak; it is enough for us to know, that he was once the County Treasurer, and that whilst acting in that capacity, he made use of *several thousand dollars*, of the public funds, for *his private purposes*, whereby the county was defrauded. This is enough to justify the Directors for *turning him out*, if not *for putting him in.* It is wrong, in any manner, to encourage or countenance Public Defaulters; the example is most pernicious; and our Directors are blameable for having assisted to set it. A well-ordered school should be a nursery of virtue; not seminaries, where vice is sown by example. We may have occasion to resume this subject.

Thomas C. Miller.

☞This man made a speech!! in the Senate, on the subject of the pay of the troops; and we presume such a specimen *artis logendi*, was never before exhibited, in a legislative Body. The language in which the silly rhapsody of our "genius" Senator delivered exceeded in vulgarity, the *patois* of a Virginia negro! Even his Loco Foco friends were disgusted by the ignorance, which he manifested, of the common principles of language; and one of them exclaimed, on leaving the Chamber, "*I did not think he was such an ignorant and vulgar ass!*" This, however was no secret to us. We know Thomas C Miller, to be an ignorant man, and vulgar in all his notions and feelings. Yet such a man is the Representative of almost 100,000 freemen!

☞In the "Chambersburg Whig" we see a list furnished by a correspondent of that paper, showing the number of British vessels of war, and merchantmen captured and destroyed by the American arms during the last war with that nation. 62 vessels of war, mounting 870 guns, 854 merchant ships, mounting 2500 guns, 610 Brigs, mounting 2400 guns, 320 schooners, mounting 600 guns, 135 sloops, five armed, 750 vessels besides the above (recaptured) mounting 2500 guns. The whole amounting to 2452 vessels, and 9679 guns.

From Maine.

☞The first intelligence conveyed to Britain relative to the Maine business was taken out by the great Western, and the subsequent proceedings on the Frontier, including the proceedings of the American Congress, were taken by the steam packet Liverpool. Parliament was then in session, and it is probable that intelligence of such interest produced a momentary panic in the stock market, especially with regard to American securities, if it did not induce some specific movement on the part of the Government. But no further intelligence is probable. It is believed that England will by every means in her power, consistent with her own character the condition of the popular sentiment, and the portion of her Ministry, avoid and deprecate a conflict as well because the philosophy, feeling, and policy of her statesmen are averse to such a cause, as because she has enough to do with her own immediate dominions, and is unwilling to afford Russia, any pretext for accomplishing her ambitious designs in the East. Accounts from Bangor up to the 18th of March, states that all was quiet at that time, and the opinion was that there would be no fighting done at present. 24 pieces of Artillery had arrived at Augusta on the 21st inst. The number of British troops concentrating on the frontier amounts to about 3000.

In the New York house of Assembly a day or two ago, Mr. Taylor made a report, agreeing with the sentiments expressed by the Governor in his message on the subject, deprecating the horrors of war, but sustaining with unflinching determination the claims of the U. States to the territory in dispute, it was unanimously adopted.

The New York Commercial Advertiser, says, we have reason now more than ever to believe that there will be no war. Nor can Gov. Fairfield and his whole Legislature bring it about. We speak not at random when we predict that there will be a Mediation. France if necessary will proffer her services as mediator, as England did in the recent difficulties with Mount-seer. Mark our words.

The Boston Transcript of Tuesday says, that by passengers in the steamer Bangor, which left the Penobscot yesterday, we learn that all is quiet in that city, even unto dullness. No War, no Shingles, no sleighing, all flat. At Augusta, again, the legislature met for the last time an half past 5. Moreover orders were received there for the Oxford and Cumberland troops, of which we have heard so much to return home forthwith. This we take it ends the war for the present.

The Germantown Telegraph says—"We would advise persons who contemplate growing mulberry trees this season, and have not yet procured their trees, to exercise the utmost care in making their purchases. They should reject the French tree entirely, at whatever price offered, and particularly stipulate in their contracts, the part of the country where the tree was raised."

PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES.—The Savannah Georgian of Friday, the 15th instant, says, "Ex President Jackson to-day completes his 72d year—having been born on the 15th of March, 1767. General Washington died in his 68th year; Mr. Adams, the elder, in his 91st; Mr. Jefferson, in his 84th; Mr. Madison, in his 86th; and Mr. Monroe, in his 73d year. Ex President J. Q. Adams is now in his 74th or 75th year; Mr. Van Buren is 57 or thereabouts."

THE SCHOOL SYSTEM OF PENNSYLVANIA.—The John School Superintendent, Mr. Burrowes, states, in his report, that of the ten hundred and twenty-seven districts in this state, eight hundred and seventy five have already accepted the system. That in these there are at least five thousand schools and two hundred and thirty thousand scholars; and that since the introduction of the system, the cost of instruction is only one half what it was before the Common School System went into operation.

IMPORTANT FROM WISCONSIN.—The Legislature met at Madison on the 22d ult. The Governor delivered his message, which touches among other things, the subject of the Winnebago Indians. It is anticipated from sundry indications that there will be difficulty this spring, as they are determined not to leave the country at the time stipulated in the treaty. They are making hostile preparations. The Governor recommends that the War Department be immediately memorialized for arms and ammunition, and for five companies of Dragoons. The Governor will take the responsibility, in case of emergency, of raising volunteer companies, which he will head in person for the protection and defence of exposed settlements.

THE GREAT PRESBYTERIAN CASE DECIDED.

After the charge of Judge Rogers to the jury yesterday morning, in this important case, the jury retired at half past 11 o'clock, and in little more than half an hour, returned into Court with a *Verdict in favor of the New School, or Relators.*

We have seen heard that the Respondents have moved for a new trial [*Phila. Inq.*

THE RIVER AT PITTSBURGH.—At our last dates from Pittsburgh, there was upwards of 10 feet water in the channel. Six steamboats departed, and five arrived on the 23.

MARRIED.

On the 28th ult. by the Rev. Mr. Albert, Mr. Jonas C. Rice of Harrisburg, miss MARY M. HAMM, of Oxford.

On the 24th inst. Mr. ABRAM HALT to Miss POLLY REYNARD, both of Frederick Co. Md.

DIED,

On the 29th ult. in this place, HARRIET KRAUTH, infant daughter of Edwin A. Atlee, aged 2 months.

RELIGIOUS NOTICES.

☞*The Rev. Dr. KRAUTH, will preach in the Lutheran Church on Sunday evening next, and the Rev. Mr. REXROTH, in the evening.*

The Rev. Mr. MCLEAN, will preach in this place on Sunday morning next.

☞ Rev. Mr. PERSON will preach in the Methodist Church in this place on Sunday morning and evening next.

BALTIMORE PRICES CURRENT.

Flour,	$ 7 00	to 7 12½
Rye flour,	0 00	to 5 75
Wheat,	1 50	to 1 55
Rye,	0 95	to 0 98
Corn,	0 88	to 0 89
Oats,	0 41	to 0 43
Potatoes,	0 50	to 0 60
Bacon,	0 10	to 0 11
Lard,	0 11	to 0 12
Cloverseed,	13 00	to 14 00
Timothy,	2 75	to 3 00
Flaxseed,	1 62½	to 1 75
Whiskey,	0 40	to 0 41
Beef,	12 00	to 12 50
Pork, live,	19 00	to 21 00

ADVERTISEMENTS.

☞ THE ADDRESS delivered by the Rev. Dr. S. S. SCHMUCKER, to the citizens of Gettysburg by request, *on the 22d of February*, 1839, is now For Sale at the Book Store of SAMUEL H. BUEHLER. Price 12½ cents.

This truly excellent address should be in the hands of every friend of virtue and patriotism. The character and duties of a *christian patriot* are developed therein in a masterly manner. Every family should have a copy.

March 19, 1839.

LITERARY NOTICE.

THE Citizens of Gettysburg and the public generally, are respectfully invited to attend the annual contest between the Literary Societies of Pennsylvania College, which will take place in Christ Church *on Tuesday Evening the 19th inst.* On which occasion two original Essays will be read, and two original Orations delivered, by members of the Societies.

☞The following question will be discussed by a member from each Society.

"*Shall Emulation be encouraged in our Schools and Colleges?*

THADDEUS S. THOMPSON,
E. SCHWARTZ,
WM. F. EYSTER,
HENRY BAKER,
AARON J. KARN,
WM. B. M'CLELLAN.
*Joint Committee of the Phrenakosmian and Philomathean Societies.