From the Baltimore American.

Education and Crime.—Stated in the Harrisburg Telegraph, that for the financial year ending Oct. 31, 1838, the expenses of keeping up the penitentiaries of Pennsylvania, and conveying convicts, were $43,753. The Telegraph adds that this tax upon the community for the punishment of the guilty has proved inadequate to the reduction of crime.

We notice some statistics taken from the criminal records of France, in which those charged and convicted for crimes during a period of five years from 1828 to 1832, both inclusive, are classed in reference to their degree of education. The number of persons convicted within this time for criminal offences in the various courts of assizes was 21,705. Of these two thousand two hundred and sixty five were educated persons—that is to say, they were able to read and write, and the number includes all others who possessed greater attainments. Nineteen thousand four hundred and forty one, being all the rest, were persons uneducated—that is, they were unable to read and write, or able to do either imperfectly.

These statements, if must be allowed, will not afford grounds for an accurate estimate of the matter, unless it be kn wn what proportion of the French people are uneducated, and how many have received instruction. We can therefore form only a general opinion from the statistics given.

It is hardly necessary, however, to refer to statistics of crimes to draw proof of the importance of education among a people. One might as well attempt to establish the positions of ship builders and architects to establish the fact that a tree of full size & stately proportions is superior to one of a distorted growth, choked by wild vines, and full of knots. Knowledge is to the intellect an aliment necessary to its nature. The instinct of the mind demands it, and if be not furnished of the proper kind, the eager appetite will seek it in such elements as are most common.

But it is not to be denied that knowledge of itself will not secure a man or a community from the danger of falling into crime, although it is the strongest bulwark of virtue. Like other gifts, whether of mind or fortune, knowledge is an instrument of the will, and may be turned to good or to evil according as the inward disposition prompts. Under the sway of a malignant heart, it makes gigantic villains. It must be left to the moral influences which are dispensed from the pulpit and the press, to give a proper and legitimate direction to the improved powers of intellect which education developes. The duty of the State is to provide for this education, in the full faith that good will come of it. Let men be made *rational*, and the probability is strong that they will be *moral*.

We may notice here, in reference to the increase of criminal offences, some remarks of Mr. Wood, the intelligent warden of the Eastern State Prison of Pennsylvania, in a correspondence lately published between him and Dr. Tydman, of Charleston, S. C. The matter is in allusion to the pardoning power, which Dr. W. thinks is too freely used in a multitude of instances, and that the tendency thus resulting is to the encouragement of criminal offences. It is a well established by the history of penal codes every where, that the *certainty* of punishment is more efficacious than its severity towards suppressing crime. Vacillation or irresolution in the infliction of the penalty of a violated law takes away the awfulness of justice, and gives another prospect of escape to offenders, besides that of eluding detection. These remarks of course are not meant to apply to cases wherein guilt is subsequently disproved, or where improper evidence has led to conviction, or where new circumstances come to alter the feelings of the case. We allude to pardons granted out of commiseration, or by reason of intercession of friends and promise of amendment.

CHAMBERSBURG, Nov. 19.

ATTEMPTED ROBBERY.

On Thursday night last, at about 8 o'clock, the house of Messrs. Peter and Jacob Plough, in Green township, about four miles from this borough, was forcibly entered by three persons, evidently for the purpose of committing robbery. They were met, after having gotten into the outer door, by the two gentlemen above named, when a short scuffle ensued, during which one of the ruffians discharged a pistol, loaded with two balls and a quantity of shot. The balls passed between the Messrs. Plough, without damage, but the shot scattering, slightly wounded both. Finding themselves frustrated in their design, the robbers then made their escape. They were all disguised, with old clothes, slouched caps, and blackened faces. They are described, two of them as being tall and slim, and the third as short and stout built. Two hundred dollars is offered for their detection.

The repeated instances of robbery, and attempts at robbery, which have occurred in this region of country within the past year, ought to operate as a caution to persons living in the country, against keeping in their houses, or about their persons, large sums of money. Their isolated condition renders them comparatively defenceless against the attacks of the ruffians who prowl about in search of plunder. The safer way is to keep money deposited in banks or savings institutions, where it is always safe, and from whence it can be drawn when wanted for use. Many, we know, are afraid to deposite their money, especially specie, in banks, in times like the present, but their fear is a foolish one, as they can keep their specie, as well as paper in those institutions, and by doing so, free themselves from the anxiety and danger they otherwise incur.—*Repository.*

A man named Stevens, was killed in Beaver county a short time since by a kick from a horse he was trying to break.

From the York Republican.

THE PRESIDENT AT HOME.

Mr. Van Buren's native county—Columbia—sends three Whig representatives to the New York Legislature—his native district has elected three Whig Senators, and his native state is now managed by a Whig Governor, and Whig Legislature who will elect as United States Senator the Hon. N. P. Tallmadge, the most obnoxious man probably to the President in the whole Empire State.—In 1836 Columbia county gave Van Buren a majority of 1000—his native Senate district gave him more than 6000—the State more than 28,000; now Columbia, Senate District, State, all Whig majorities. This is a most tremendous revolution in popular sentiment, and it remains firm, although Mr Van Buren exhibited during the summer the unprecedented and disgraceful spectacle of a President of the United States traversing his native State—delivering political speeches in favor of his own administration, and drilling his party in anticipation of the election. How bitter must be his disappointment in the result! The Washington City Madisonian says that "never was there a human being more completely *chopfallen* than Mr. Van Buren since the news from the State of New-York.—Those sweet smiles and significant glances of the eye, that were wont to grace his countenance, have given place to contracted brows and darkened features, and the name of TALLMADGE acts upon him nerves somewhat akin to the remembrance of *Birnam Wood* on the senses of the affrighted Macbeth. Yesterday when the confirmation of the news from Michigan reached him, it absolutely covered his better part of man, and left him completely prostrate. Thus the gorgeous East room, which was wont to ring with the merriment of its occupants, is now a cold still and sombre as a vault. The house is emphatically no longer one of joy.—The *sober second thought* of the people has taught Mr. Van Buren, that however much corruption may triumph for a time, honesty is the best, as well as safest policy."

Mr. Van Buren will enter the political campaign next year with the certainty that his own State will go against him—a circumstance that never occurred to any other candidate for President. Let then the example of New-York stir up the Whigs throughout the Union to form a determined purpose to stand fast to their principles in opposition to national misrule, and to do their whole duty at the polls in 1840.

The Michigan Election.—The Detroit Daily Advertiser of Monday last leaves no room for doubt (if any doubt yet existed) of the entire success of the Whigs at the late election in that State. The victory is complete. In the popular branch of the Legislature hardly enough Loco-focos are left to tell the news of their defeat.

The majority for the Whig candidate for *Governor* far exceeds all previous calculations, and will amount to something like fifteen hundred votes.

The *Senate* is Whig.

In the *House of Representatives* the Whigs are ascertained to have elected thirty-three members, and the Locos thirteen: six districts yet to be heard from.

The Importance of One Vote.—Gen'l ERASTUS ROOT—one of the Whig Candidates for Senator in the third district of New-York—has been elected by a majority of *one vote* (which would have been two, had not his name been mis-spelled on one ticket) in an aggregate of more than 40,000 votes polled. This is a lesson to those voters who are always crying either, "there will be enough without me," or "we will be defeated any how." There is but one way in which a man entitled to exercise the elective franchise can faithfully discharge his duty to his country and his principles—and that is to GO TO THE POLLS AND VOTE. General ROOT is a veteran politician of the old democratic school, and has occupied many public stations; but we suspect that he never in all his political campaigns had such a close run as he had in the late election in the third Senate district.—*York Repub.*

A Survivor of Wyoming.—An Indiana paper gives a history of a white woman who was captured in the west of Wyoming by the Delawares, in 1777.—Her name was Slocum, and she was but sixteen years old at the time of the massacre. After the revolution her friends adopted every measure calculated to lead to the discovery of her fate, in vain, and until last year they never heard any intimation of her destiny. Previous to that time, Col. Ewing, of the army, saw her in the neighborhood of Fort Wayne, heard something of her history, and published an account of her adventure in several of the newspapers in the interior of Pennsylvania, which was seen by her brother, a wealthy citizen of Wilkesbarre, who, a few weeks ago, paid a visit to her home in the wilderness, in company with two of his daughters. The old lady had adopted the customs of her Indian associates, and spoke several dialects of the language with the fluency of a native.—She is now a widow, and has two daughters living with her at a place called the "Deaf Man's Village." The mother and daughters are very much respected, own a section of land, and are very well off in horses, cattle, stock, &c. One of the daughters has been married, but has lost her husband; and the other is married to a half-breed named Brouillee, one of the most noble looking Indians of the tribe. It is stated that their house is a place of hospitality and kindness, and none of them have the least desire to associate with the whites, or to visit the scenes of civilization.

There is an Association in Philadelphia for the supplying of schools with teachers. This body receives applications both from teachers desiring employment and from the trustees of schools.

From the U. S. Gazette, Nov. 22.

FIRE ON THE RAILROAD.

A very destructive fire occurred yesterday at the head of the Inclined Plane, on the Philadelphia and Columbia Rail-road, some four or five miles from the city.

It commenced about ten o'clock in the morning in an out-house, used for depositing wood, and resulted, it is conjectured, from sparks issuing from the pipe of a locomotive which not long before had started for Columbia, and which sparks had lodged in the wood-house.

Before aid could be rendered effectively, the flames had communicated to the one car house, which was burned out. The good locomotives therein were safely removed; but a number of condemned engines were destroyed.

A row of brick houses, immediately in the rear of the car house, was also consumed—the two eastern most were used as dwelling-houses—the western one was used as a blacksmith shop.

In addition to these, a building used as a carpenter shop was burned down.

The loss to the State is estimated at from twenty to thirty thousand dollars; among other articles of value consumed, was a rope for the use of the Plane, the cost of which was two thousand seven hundred dollars; but from the preparative seasoning which it had undergone, its value probably was about three thousand dollars.

The car house, one would have supposed, to look at it, to have been perfectly fire proof; but, by an unfortunate oversight, the eaves had been built of wood, and thus the fire reached its interior. The roof fell in almost entire, and much smouldering fire is still probably beneath it.

Many of our fire companies, notwithstanding the distance, were on the ground, and did what men could do under the circumstances.

Bread Stuffs.—It is estimated (says the Philadelphia Herald) that the surplus wheat alone in Michigan, Indiana and Illinois, will be 16 000 000 of bushels—2 000,000 more, equal to one half the deficiency of the whole grain crop of Great Britain.

The Albany Argus states that the flour and wheat which arrived at the Hudson River-by way of the Erie canal, up to the 7th Nov. in each of the years 1838 to 1839, was as follows, viz:

1838	equal to	981,301 barrels.
1839	"	834,007 "
Falling off 147,294	"	

or about 15 per cent. The quantity which arrived at the Hudson River from the 1st Oct. to 7th Nov. was equal to 319,463 barrels, or, about 10,000 bbls per day. The "falling off," as we are assured by gentlemen from the country, (remarks the N Y Commercial Advertiser) has been occasioned by the want of money to get it to market. The produce of the soil, and the quantity actually ready for the market, or which, but for the derangement of the currency, and the scarcity of money, would have been ready have never been so great. The last month of October, sixty thousand barrels of flour were manufactured per day. Nevertheless, But notwithstanding the fruitfulness of the season, there is a chance of scarcity in the city of New York during winter, for the want of means to bring it to market.

Congress.—The National Legislature will commence its Session at the Capitol in the City of Washington, on Monday next, the 2d of December. A considerable number of the Members are already in the metropolis, or announced to be expected; and there is reason to believe that some excitement will prevail at the commencement of the Session. The nearly equal balance of political strength of parties in the House of Representatives—the unusual number of contested seats—the tone of the loco foco press which recommends a departure from all the former usages and the organization, and the unusual activity of the administration to prevent the election of a Whig Speaker and the appointment of opposition Committees of Inquiry, combine to induce the expectation of unprecedented scenes. There will be an effort made to introduce Chas. J. Ingersoll—the cause of all the Pennsylvania troubles last winter—into the seat to which Mr Naylor was elected by an overwhelming majority, and the New Jersey Whig Members will, if possible, be ousted before investigation, although they have the certificate of election from the proper officers, and were fairly elected by an honest and legal majority, after the ballot-boxes were purified, by those to whom the law committed the duty, from fraudulent votes. We shall await news from Washington with great interest.—*York Rep.*

A Joke.—Some of the New York papers are highly delighted at an occurrence which took place in Broadway last Saturday. A New York youngster went into Jersey and won the affections of a young lady of a very respectable family, and then insulted *her* and her family, by telling them he was only joking. The lady and her friends, left the house