ing a like wound, the command of the New York volunteers fell to Lieut. Col. Baxter; and, on the fall of the lamented Col. P. M. Butler—earlier badly wounded, but continuing to lead nobly in the hottest part of the battle—the command of the South Carolina volunteers devolved first, on Lieut. Col. Dickinson, who being severely wounded (as before in the siege of Vera Cruz,) the regiment ultimately fell under the orders of Major Gladden.

Lieuts. David Adams and W. R. Williams, of the same corps; Capt. Augustus Quarles and Lieut. J. B. Goodman, of the 15th, and Lieut. E. Chandler, New York volunteers—all gallant officers, nobly fell in the same action.

Shields took 380 prisoners, including officers, and it cannot be doubted that the rage of the conflict between him and the enemy, just in the rear of the *tete de pont* and the convent, had some influence on the surrender of those formidable defences.

As soon as the *tete de pont* was carried, the greater part of Worth's and Pillow's forces passed that brigade in rapid pursuit of the flying enemy. These distinguished Generals, coming up with Brigadier Gen. Shields, now also victorious, the three continued to press upon the fugitives to within a mile and a half of the capital. Here Col. Harney, with a small part of his brigade of cavalry, rapidly passed to the front and charged the enemy up to the nearest gate.

The cavalry charge was headed by Captain Kearney, of the 1st dragoons, having in squadron, with his own troop, that of Capt. McReynolds of the 3d—making the usual escort to general head-quarters; but being early in the day, detached for general service, was now under Col. Harney's orders. The gallant captain not hearing the *recall* that had been sounded, dashed up to the San Antonio gate, sabreing, in his way, all who resisted. Of the seven officers of the squadron, Kearney lost his left arm; McReynolds and Lieut. Lorimer Graham were both severely wounded, and Lieut. R. S. Ewell, who succeeded to the command of the escort, had two horses killed under him. Major F. D. Mills, of the 15th infantry, a volunteer in this charge, was killed at the gate.

So terminated the series of events which I have but feebly presented. My thanks were freely poured out on the different fields—to the abilities and science of generals and other officers—to the gallantry and prowess of all—the rank and file included. But a reward infinitely higher—the applause of a grateful country and government, will, I cannot doubt, be accorded, in due time, to so much merit, of every sort, displayed by this glorious army, which has now overcome all difficulties—distance, climate, ground, fortifications, numbers.

It has in a single day, in many battles, as often defeated 32,000 men; made about 3,000 prisoners, including eight generals (two of them ex-presidents) and 205 other officers; killed or wounded 4,000 of all ranks—besides entire corps dispersed and dissolved;—captured 37 pieces of ordnance—more than trebling our siege train and field batteries—with a large number of small arms, a full supply of ammunition of every kind, &c., &c.

These great results have overwhelmed the enemy.

Our loss amounts to 1,053;—*killed* 139, including 16 officers; *wounded*, 876, with 60 officers. The greater number of the dead and disabled were of the highest worth. Those under treatment, thanks to our very able medical officers, are generally doing well.

I regret having been obliged on the 20th, to leave Maj. Gen. Quitman, an able commander, with a part of his division—the fine 2d Pennsylvania volunteers, and the veteran detachment of United States marines, at our important depot, San Augustin. It was there that I had placed our sick and wounded; the siege, supply and baggage trains. If these had been lost, the army would have been driven almost to despair; and considering the enemy's very great excess of numbers, and the many approaches to the depot, it might well have become—emphatically, *the post of honor.*

After so many victories, we might, with but little additional loss, have occupied the capital the same evening. But Mr. Trist, commissioner, &c., as well as myself, had been admonished by the best friends of peace—intelligent neutrals and some American residents—against precipitation—lest, by wantonly driving away the government and others—dishonored—we might scatter the elements of peace, excite a spirit of national desperation, and thus, indefinitely postpone the hope of accommodation.—Deeply impressed with this danger, and remembering our mission—to conquer a peace—the army very cheerfully sacrificed to patriotism—to the great wish and want of our country—the *eclat* that would have followed an entrance, sword in hand, into a great capital. Willing to leave something to this republic—of no immediate value to us—on which to rest her pride, and to recover her temper—I halted our victorious corps at the gates of the city, (at least for a time,) and have them now cantonned in the neighboring villages, where they are well sheltered and supplied with all necessaries.

On the morning of the 21st, being about to take up battering or assaulting positions, to authorize me to summon the city to surrender, or to sign an armistice with a pledge to enter at once into negotiations for a peace, a mission came out to propose a truce. Rejecting its terms, I despatched my contemplated note to President Santa Anna, omitting the summons. The 22d, commissions were appointed by the commanders of the two armies; the armistice was signed the 23d, and ratifications exchanged the 24th.

All matters in dispute between the two governments have been thus happily turned over to their plenipotentiaries, who have now had several conferences, and with, I think, some hope of signing a treaty of peace.

There will be transmitted to the Adjutant General reports from divisions, brigades, &c., on the foregoing operations to which I must refer, with my hearty concurrence in the just applause bestowed on corps and individuals by their respective commanders. I have been a-[illegible] being necessarily a summary—[illegible] comparatively, but little of individual merit, not lying directly in the way of the narration. Thus I doubt whether I have in express terms, given my approbation and applause to the commanders of divisions and independent brigades; but left their fame upon higher grounds—the simple record of their great deeds and the brilliant results.

To the staff, both general and personal, attached to general head-quarters, I was again under high obligations for services in the field as always in the bureaux. I add their names, &c.: Lieut. Col. Hitchcock, acting inspector general; Maj. J. L. Smith, Capt. R. E. Lee, (as distinguished for felicitous execution as for science and daring,) Capt. Mason, Lieut. Stevens, Beauregard, and Tower—all of the engineers; Major Turnbull, Captain McClellan, and Lieut. Hardcastle, topographical engineers; Capt. Huger and Lieut. Hanger, of the ordnance; Captains Irwin and Wayne, of the quarter-master's department; Capt. Grayson, of the commissariat; Surgeon General Lawson, in his particular department; Captain H. L. Scott, acting assistant adjutant general; Lieut. Williams, aid-de-camp, and Lieut. Lay, military secretary. Lieut. Schuyler Hamilton, another aid-de-camp, had, a week before, been thrown out of activity by a severe wound received in a successful charge of cavalry against cavalry, and four times his numbers; but, on the 20th, I had the valuable services, as volunteer aids, of Majors Kirby and Van Buren, of the pay department, always eager for activity and distinction; and of a third, the gallant Major J. P. Gaines, of the Kentucky volunteers.

I have the honor to be, sir, with high respect,
Your most obedient servant.
WINFIELD SCOTT.
Hon. Wm. L. Marcy, Secr'y of War.

Dreadful Story of Shipwreck.

The following deplorable account of the sufferings of the survivors of the wreck of the schooner Caroline, bound from Savannah to Bath, was furnished to the editors of the Boston Traveller, by the Captain of the Caroline. After describing the wreck, Captain Smith says:—

"Our provisions and water were all stored in the trunk cabin on deck, save one barrel of water in the run. By the disaster, both provisions and water were carried overboard, save that below, which it was impossible to get at. Thus we were without food or drink.

"Our only shelter was one berth, which remained of the cabin on deck, the hold being full of water. Three days after, Henry Hughes, one of the crew, went on deck, and was never seen afterwards; he was probably washed overboard.

"On the 3d inst., we caught water enough from rain to last twenty four hours. From that time to the 10th, were totally without water or food, and began to feel as if death was very near us. The gale had lasted eight days. We had had nothing to eat for ten, or drink for six days. We then began to discuss the question of drawing lots to see who should suffer death to save the lives of the others.

"It was agreed that we should use sticks. We drew, and it fell to the lot of an Irishman, named Charles Brown, who had S. D. marked on his arm. He was a large athletic man, weighing about 175 or 180, had shipped at Savannah, and was unknown to the rest of the crew.

"He alone was armed with a sheathe knife, which he drew, and declared he would plunge it into the heart of the first one who approached to carry out the fatal chance. Upon this the Captain retired to the cabin, saying he would have nothing more to do with the affair, thinking that they were all near their end.

"At this moment a boy, named Hughie Rose, of Bangor, Wales, aged 19, spoke up and said that the youngest should die first; this free-will offering was about to be accepted by Brown, as the Captain with the boy went into the cabin. Captain Smith states that as he threw himself upon the berth, his eye was attracted to a handle sticking up near, which he thought belonged to an adze. He told the boy to fetch it, and it proved to be an adze.

"Thinking that something wrong was about to be enacted on deck, he followed the boy when he returned, and saw the boy siezed round the waist by the now desperate Brown, with the intention of making him the victim. At this moment the captain states that he felt gifted with extraordinary strength, stepped forward, and drove the adze twice into the head of Brown, and he fell dead upon deck.

"It was supposed by Captain Smith, from the fact that S. D. was marked upon the arm of Brown, that he shipped under a feigned name. He was about 35 years old.

"After he was dead, the Captain bled and dressed him. His flesh was partly cut into thin strips, and laid upon the deck to dry.—But the crew did not hunger for food, water being their chief desire. His blood was used for drink until the morning that they were taken off when about a pint remained, which had turned black.

"On the morning of the 13th, early, three vessels hove in sight, one of which, the brig Tampico, Captain Bown, bound from New Haven for the West Indies, took off the three survivors, viz:—Wm. Smith, of Biddeford, Maine, the captain; Horace Smith, of do., the mate; and Hughie Rose, of Bangor, the boy preserved from death by the action of the captain. The two former were transferred to the British schooner Splendid, and arrived at Philadelphia.

"The boy was retained on board the Tampico, the captain promising to take care of him. Captain Smith states that if Brown had submitted quietly to his fate, they would not have had the heart to kill him; but he did not think it right that the boy, after running one chance for his life, should after all become the victim, and he appears to think that he was suddenly gifted with strength to save him.

"An idea may be formed of the nearness of death to this unfortunate crew from the fact that the captain's feet and nails both turned black, and his nails have not as yet obtained their natural color. The blood of Brown probably saved their lives, as they subsisted on it two whole days.

"The Caroline is a total loss. She is insured at the Neptune Office in this city, for $5,000."

Oregon Mail.—The New York Herald states that two splendid steamers, of similar mould and capacity to the Northerner, have been contracted for, to run on the coast of Peru, the starting point from Panama, or rather Callao, to extend as far as the mouth of the Oregon river, touching at the various places between these two points. They are to carry the U. S. and Oregon mail, in connection with Mr. Law's steamers, which are to ply on the Atlantic side, having Chagres as the terminus.

Dimes and Half Dimes.—The New York Globe is calling the attention of Congress to to the best means of getting the worn out Spanish sixpences and shillings out of circulation. It says, if we weigh a sixpence and an American half dime, we shall find that the half dime has more actual silver in it than the sixpence, consequently, the positive value is in the American coin.

Gen. Houston and the Presidency.—A democratic mass meeting of the citizens of St. Augustine, Texas, and the adjacent counties, "respectfully and deferentially propose to the people of these United States, the name of Gen. Sam. Houston for the next Presidency; subject to the decision of a National Convention."

Sir Robert Peel is said to possess an estate valued at ninety millions of dollars.

Mr. Dallas on Slavery Extension.

On the 18th of September last, the Hon. Geo. M. Dallas, addressed a Democratic meeting at Pittsburg, one of the topics of his remarks being the extension of Slavery. We give his views as then expressed, and as expressed subsequently at Hollidaysburg, as an act of justice to so distinguished a Statesman, no less than to comply with a request made by several friends who are rather inclined to endorse his let-alone policy instead of the Wilmot Proviso.

After an able and powerful argument in favor of sustaining and prosecuting the war with Mexico, he said:

There is another question before the people, of great moment, and which excites a great deal of attention, that is intimately connected with this war. If, upon the conclusion of a treaty with Mexico, we should come into possession of one-half or two-thirds of her territory—what are we to do with it? This is a question of difficult solution. Of one thing we are quite certain—the Yankees will in time overrun that portion of their territory: and though there is much Mexican blood upon it, we may look to the period as not more remote than a single life-time, when a number of large States, stretching from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific ocean, will be distinguished in the constellation of our Union. The question to which I refer, anticipates the acquisition of this territory. It is known as the Wilmot Proviso.—And what is the meaning of this question?—A portion of the people of the United States, have their hearts set against the extension of slavery; and there are scarcely any means which some do not deem justifiable, in order to accomplish their purpose. With a large number, this subject is no doubt a matter of conscience and of principle; and they assume that a certain portion of territory is to be derived from Mexico, as an indemnity for the wrongs done to us, and our expenses in the war. These people say, that if we take this territory, there should be no slavery tolerated within it. To this, another portion of the country object.—They say that if we acquire this territory, it will come through the toil and blood of the country in common—that of the North and South; and we are not disposed to say that this territory shall be appropriated exclusively to the people in the North.

This is one of those difficulties which have surrounded us from the organization of our government; and it can only be properly settled in accordance with the Constitution of our country. Shall we be deprived of the opportunity of gaining this territory? What shall we do with the Wilmot Proviso? For me, I hold myself in readiness for the crisis, whenever it shall be presented—even should I be compelled, from my position, to give another terrible *casting vote*! I shall carefully examine the subject, weigh well the able arguments on both sides of the question, which may be presented by the giant intellects of our country, and reserve to myself the right to do as I think right, when the time may come for action.

There is but one political course which a man can take, in safety to his conscience—that course is a strict adherence to the Constitution. That is the charter by which to determine our powers. That is the compass by which alone we can safely steer our political barque. If you can accomplish the abolition of slavery in the Southern States through its instrumentality, why do so. But I hope there are none who would do so at the hazard of our Union, liberty and independence. The only true test, however, to which we can submit this question, or any other that may arise, is the Constitution. But it is unfortunately the case, with many of those who seem most interested in the question of abolishing slavery, that they are not much governed by such a principle as this. There is a something above our Constitution, above our laws, above our world itself, that is invoked. These persons should remember, that there is a means by which to accomplish their ends, if they be right, much more safe and sure, than that of destroying the only safeguard which they have for their own liberty. If they be indeed sincere in their designs, let them toil on until they shall be able to effect such a change in the Constitution itself as they desire; but, while that instrument positively prohibits any interference by one State with the institutions of another, I could hope that State pride alone, if there were no more liberal and general principle, would forbid the people of Pennsylvania to interfere with the peculiar affairs of her sister States, as readily as she would resent even the appearance of meddling by another State, with affairs especially her own.

But we hear, in some quarters, much talk of what is called *compromise*. I am of that old school of Democrats who will never compromise the Constitution of my country. This is one of the words not to be found in that instrument. It was itself a result of compromise; but, once having become a thing of shape, of life, of spirit, then all compromise was at an end. It was a settled principle, a positive rule—a thing which might be broken; but having no materials in it which were capable of being bent. In it are to be found all the provisions for our government; and if you wish for other provisions, you cannot put them there—all the legislation of Congress cannot put them there—unless in accordance with its provisions. At the time of the admission of Missouri into the Union, I found the same sentiment very generally prevailing in some sections. I had the same opinions then on this subject that I have now; and in the midst of the agitation then manifest, there were many who could not see where the agitation would end. Then men got together and talked of compromises, and made compromises, and one-half insisted on what they had no right to ask, and the other half submitted to that which they never should have submitted to. Any such system as this is calculated gradually to undermine the Constitution. Far better would be an instantaneous change in its provisions, by Convention, than any compromise whatever inconsistent with that instrument itself.

The officers of the general government are awake to the importance of this subject; and there is no doubt that there will be much agitation in both Houses of Congress upon it.—In the Senate, I have no doubt it will be examined in all its bearings; and I sincerely hope that something will be found to arise from it calculated to place our institutions upon a still more firm and enduring basis than they even now are. The very best thing which can be done, when all is said upon the subject that may be said, will be to let it alone entirely—leaving to the people of the territory to be acquired, the business of settling the matter for themselves; for where slavery has no existence, all the legislation of Congress would be powerless to give it existence; and where we find it to exist the people of the country have themselves adopted the institution; they have the right, alone, to determine their own institutions; and, as the matter so exists elsewhere, they are not to be condemned for its existence.

From the Pennsylvanian.

Mr. Clay's Plea for Mexico—No. 1.

There is in Mr. Clay's *pronunciamento*, at Lexington, a studied appearance of forgetfulness of all the arguments by which his country can justify her course in regard to the present war with Mexico. He is not the arbiter between, if you please, two excited republics, sitting in solemn judgment upon the actions of each, and deciding upon the cold and unimpassioned merits and truth of the case. On the contrary, he is the accuser and the judge of his own country before the world. His speech is heralded with a flourish of trumpets, like that which announced the approach of the kings of old, in their visits of state, and is preceded by carefully drawn resolutions constituting the *stamina* and foundation of the speech itself. When the latter appears, it will of course be found to be consistent with the resolutions. It will indeed be nothing more than an elaboration of "the points" contained in the resolutions. It will, therefore, be a solemn accusation of his country, and a solemn defence of Mexico, before his fellow-citizens and the world. Let us see in how far Mr. Clay is justified in taking this extraordinary and disgraceful course—how far the offence and provocation, to this war, can be justly chargeable against the administration of the National government. Let us see if Mr. Clay has not shamefully suppressed facts which simple justice to his country should have led him to make known—and if, further, he has not perverted and falsified the record in favor of Mexico, in alluding to such as he conceives to be requisite to make up his case.

In resolution No. 1, Mr. Clay says, in the following solemn and emphatic manner:

"That the primary cause of the present unhappy war, existing between the United States of America, and the United States of the Republic of Mexico, was the annexation of Texas to the former; and that the immediate occasion of hostilities between the two Republics, arose out of the order of the President of the United States for the removal of the army under the command of General Taylor, from its position at Corpus Christi to a point opposite to Matamoros, on the east bank of the Rio Bravo, within territory claimed by both Republics, but then under the jurisdiction of that of Mexico, and inhabited by its citizens."

The very first sentence of this resolution is false, and we perceive by the skeleton of the speech that followed, that it is reiterated and amplified. Mr. Clay knew better—nay, he knew exactly the reverse—when he proclaimed that "the primary cause" of the present war between Mexico and the United States, was the annexation of Texas. How did he know this? He *knew* that Annexation, on the part of Mexico, was the pretext, (possibly to avoid indemnity for our wrongs,) instead of the cause of the war. He *knew* that there were other and grave causes for the present war. He *knew* that many years had been spent in hopeless efforts to induce Mexico to make redress and indemnity for injuries endured and claims preferred against that country by American citizens. He *knew* that after many delays, she had at last made a treaty with us, in which these injuries were admitted, and these claims adjudicated. He *knew* that the obligations of this treaty were scandalously neglected, and followed by additional outrages upon our ministers and our citizens. He *knew* that as long ago as the 5th of February, 1837, General Jackson, in his message to Congress, declared:

"*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, and upon the officers and flag of the United States, independent of recent insults to this government and people,* WOULD JUSTIFY, IN THE EYES OF ALL NATIONS, IMMEDIATE WAR!"

All this Mr. Clay knew when he proclaimed the extraordinary misstatement that the annexation of Texas was the "primary cause of the present war." It will not do for Mr. Clay to plead in extenuation that these were causes not sufficient to create a war, and that they would have been ultimately and peacefully settled. He *knew* that if had not been for the patient forbearance of this government, and our earnest desire to be at peace with Mexico, that war would long ago have grown out of these exciting provocations. He *knew*, further, that England and France had settled their respective difficulties with Mexico almost instantaneously—England, through Mr. Pakenham, her Minister, by a demand for immediate reparation. Mexico yielded at once. In the case of France, (which nation had suffered at the hands of Mexico outrages not half as great as those endured by us,) by a demand for $600,000, as indemnity for these wrongs; by a solemn agreement on the part of Mexico to pay regularly and promptly the just claims of French citizens; and by the disgraceful discharge of the Mexican General who had assassinated two Frenchmen at Tampico, and the payment of $20,000 as indemnification to the two families of the victims. This was the French *ultimatum*, dated on board the French man-of-war, and signed by the Minister Plenipotentiary of France, who added: "If the reply of the Mexican government shall contain a negative *upon any one of the points proposed*; if even its language shall be ambiguous *in any one particular*; if, in short, it shall be delayed beyond the 15th of April, the undersigned will immediately place the farther conduct of the business in the hands of M. Bazoche, commander of the naval forces of his Majesty, of which a part are already on the coast of Mexico, and this officer will proceed to execute the orders he has received." Mexico employed her usual arts and dissimulation; made all kinds of promises, and put off the settlement of the French difficulty for several months.—The result was known to no one better than to Henry Clay. In the following November, the French squadron opened upon the castle of San Juan, and took it after a pretty desperate resistance. The Mexicans were compelled to pay not only the $600,000 originally demanded, but $200,000 in addition to defraying the expenses of the attack.

Our claims upon Mexico amount to millions—and our citizens robbed, murdered, insulted, and imprisoned, by that nation, amount to hundreds, instead of, as in the case of England and France, *to two or three*. Both these nations forced immediate redress: the one by a threat that would have been fulfilled, but for prompt submission; the other at the mouth of victorious cannon, and at the point of swords reeking in the Mexican blood. Our demands upon Mexico, are, not as in the case of England and France, through a few short months, but through a period of twenty years. Our repeated demands for justice have been denied: our threats of force have been laughed at: our treaties with that guerrilla nation have been broken: and an accredited minister, coming with repeated offers of peace, has been repeatedly insulted, persecuted and trampled on.—And yet with these wrongs festering to a head, and ready every day for more than ten years past, to lead to a collision between the two countries, Mr. Clay declares the bold untruth, "that the annexation of Texas was the primary cause of the present war." He insults his country by this double wrong, and leaves the world to suppose, first, that we had not the nerve to redress the aggravated injuries we had suffered from Mexico, and, secondly, that but for the annexation of Texas, these injuries never would have been redressed. How much better for Mr. Clay in his plea for Mexico, if he had not forgotten to repeat even a portion of the facts which have so abundantly justified this country in her difficulty with that nation! But did not Mr. Clay know further that Mexico offered to acknowledge the independence of Texas if Texas would not annex herself to the United States? Did he not know that Texas had achieved her independence for Mexico, by the best of all titles, the title won by a successful revolution? Did he not know that her independence had been acknowledged by most of the leading governments on the globe, our own inclusive? Did he not know that Santa Anna himself, when a prisoner at San Jancinto, acknowledged this independence, and observed all that part of the treaty there made beneficial to Mexico, even if he disavowed the rest? But Mr. Clay knew further; he knew that Mexico had agreed to treat with us upon the annexation of Texas, as well as upon all other subjects of dispute between the two countries. He knew that our Minister was formally accepted by the government of Herrera, and he knew that this minister was subsequently refused admission into Mexico only by one of those tricks of diplomacy so peculiar to Mexico. All this Mr. Clay knew, and yet we presume he has not honored his poor country by saying so in his speech.

As soon as it was known that Herrera refused to receive our minister according to promise, (upon the miserable plea that he could not treat upon any other question but annexation,) Mr. Polk, in order to defend our territory from invasion, sent the army under General Taylor into Texas—an act that cannot be too warmly commended. It was a wise precautionary measure, and no doubt saved the lives of many of our fellow-citizens of Texas. Mr. Clay, if he had been President, with annexation almost ready made to his hands when he came into office, would have done the same, or proved derelict in the discharge of a grave duty. Indeed, he finds no fault with that act, in his resolutions, but attributes the immediate cause of hostilities to the march from Corpus Christi to the Rio Grande, over what he is pleased to call "disputed territory."

This branch of the subject we reserve for another article, in which we shall prove not only that the war was not that of the President, but of Mexico herself, and that Mr. Clay has stultified himself by the allegation that the Rio Grande is not the boundary of Texas.

LATE FROM MEXICO.

Telegraph Despatches for the New York Daily Globe.

Terrible Earthquake at Atlixco!

DEATH OF CANALES.

Petersburg, Va., Nov. 26, 1847.

The schooner Sarah has arrived at New Orleans from the Brazos, whence she sailed on the 9th instant.

By this arrival intelligence is received that letters had come from the city of Mexico, announcing that on the 23d of October, the city of Atlixco was totally destroyed by an earthquake. Not a house was left standing, and a large portion of the inhabitants were buried under the ruins.

Much damage was also done to the surrounding country, and in the neighboring villages and monasteries, many of which were overthrown.

Canales, the Mexican guerrilla chief, died at Cerralvo on the 4th instant.

The sickness was increasing at the Brazos.

Terrible Steamboat Disaster & Immense Loss of Life!!

Pittsburg, Nov. 26.

On Saturday morning last about 4 o'clock, the propeller Phœnix, bound up to the lakes, when within 17 miles of the Bayou, was discovered to be on fire under the deck. It was found impossible to extinguish the flames. She had more than 200 passengers on board, thirty of whom took to small boats, and were picked up in the steamer Delaware, which soon hove in sight, but not in time to save those on board. The remainder were burned or drowned. Capt. Street was sick in his state room and was saved.

One hundred and fifty passengers were emigrating Hollanders.

Every attention was extended to the sufferers by the captain and crew of the Delaware.

Later from Santa Fe!

Cincinnati, Nov. 27.

Late news has been received from Santa Fe, coming down to October 15th. Another insurrection had taken place at Chihuahua, and the American residents there forced to fly to escape being massacred, leaving much of their property behind. Col. Easton was mustering a force to march against the insurgents, and a battle was shortly expected to take place.

At Los Vegas, twelve government wagons, and one hundred men were passed on the 19th, as an escort: in going in they had several skirmishes with Indians and Mexicans, who had several men killed and their horses captured. The Americans sustained no loss.

All a Joke.—The story of the projected marriage between the Duke of Wellington and Miss Burdett Coutts, is said to have originated in a mere joke. Miss Burdett having called upon the Duke, with a large sum of money for the erection of churches in the colonies, the Duke praised her generous liberality, adding playfully, "You deserve to be a Duchess," to which the Marquis of Douro, who was present remarked—"You see Miss Coutts, my father makes you an offer."

This story may be true, and yet the rumor of the intended marriage be true, also; for many a thing that begins in a joke, ends in sober earnest.

The citizens of Charleston have tendered Gen. Shields a public dinner.

THE DEMOCRAT.

Montrose, Thursday, Dec. 2, 1847.

V. B. Palmer, Esq., N. W. corner of Third and Chestnut streets, Philadelphia, and 160 Nassau street, (Tribune Buildings) New York, is our only authorized Agent for receiving Advertisements and Subscriptions for this paper.

WOOD! WOOD!!

Will not some of our wood-paying subscribers bring us some wood forthwith? We are entirely out, and must have some without delay. *Fact!*

☞ In another column of this paper may be found the prospectus of the Union Magazine, to which we invite attention. We will also add that this magazine, although quite new, has already acquired the reputation of being the best one published.

The Postage Law.

We are heartily glad to see the press—the country press we mean of course—taking such a united and decided stand against several of the provisions of the Postage law of the last session of Congress, especially of that one which re-imposed postage on all papers circulating within 30 miles of the office of publication. We were among the first to denounce such a retrograde "reform," and we have as yet seen no reason to change our position or moderate our hostility to it. We then regarded, and still regard, it as a palpable infringement of the only legitimate object of the Post-office law, viz: the diffusion of the greatest amount of information among the people. It may indeed be a source of a trifle more revenue to the department; but it must also be remembered that in a vast many cases, where men are too poor, or too penurious, (as is sometimes the case,) it entirely shuts out the newspaper from their dwellings—thus accomplishing a twofold evil of no small magnitude; the robbing of the people of needful information, and the printer of the support he ought to have, and which is indispensable to his subsistence. This is no ideal picture but *fact.*

Or perhaps, as is not unfrequently the case, another consequence ensues. Men will reason, or rather cogitate without reason, like this: "My county paper costs me now full as much as one from the city of twice the size would cost, and the same Postage; therefore, as this latter item is the same in both instances, I shall be the gainer by taking the city paper"—not considering for a moment that his county paper, if well conducted, (which surely it would be if well *supported,*) would be of far more *interest* to him than the mammoth sheet from the city. Hence we are not surprised that as a general thing city publishers, who had a deep interest in the *repeal* of that law, should now be arrayed against its re-adoption. It is for their interest, and as they are selfish, as well as every body else, they will, of course, oppose a return to it. By its operation they have a double advantage over country publishers; first, by having a circulation of many thousands of copies, and second, by using the same matter and type that they have already run through a daily edition, or some magazine, or both, and been paid for. This is the way they can afford them so cheap. And if, in addition to these advantages, they can send them into the interior, or perhaps 300 miles, for the same it costs to send a paper printed near by, say four miles off, it tends to accumulate advantages, and organize a monopoly that opens the way to crush the country papers entirely. But to restore the law in question, so that all papers could be sent free of postage throughout the county in which they are published, and the advantages would be equal, while the country press would be greatly benefitted.

We hope the press will continue to speak out upon this subject, and that the *people*, who are the most deeply interested, will also take it in hand, memorialize Congress, through their immediate Representative, (who is with them upon this question,) and thus procure their rights again. We trust also that our Representative will himself become interested in the matter, and give Congress no rest or peace until that just and righteous provision of the law of 1845 is restored.

☞ The Legislature of South Carolina met last Monday week, and the Governor's message was communicated on Tuesday. It sustains Mr. Calhoun in relation to the war, and with him breathes vengeance against the "Wilmot Proviso," assuming that, "sooner or later, the South will have to meet and finally decide the questions mooted in that Proviso, and it ought *now* to commence preparations to meet them."

☞ The latest advices from Mexico represent Santa Anna as having fixed his residence, conformably in all to the orders which he has received on the subject from the Supreme Government, and that thence he intends to defend himself against the charges brought against him as a military man. His companions in his retirement are only his chaplain and General Staboli, with a small force of cavalry for the security of his person.

☞ A Democratic meeting was called at Lexington, Ky., on Saturday last, to listen to a speech from Robt. M. Wickliffe, Esq., in reply to the speech of Mr. Clay, and to pass resolutions sustaining the President and the war.

Penny Postage.—We hope yet to get down to the minimum postage, but that can only be done by degrees. We trust that the Postmaster General will recommend in his report the free circulation of newspapers, as formerly. It appears to be the general wish.—N. Y. Globe.