Ohio and Erie Canal.

We are pleased to see the editor of the Terre Haute Wabash Express, leading off in an article, calling attention to the splendid donation granted to the State of Indiana by the late Congress, in aid of this great State, and indeed, when completed, National work. We are also pleased to notice, that the attention of the people of the whole State, as well as those locally interested in this work, is called to the subject. The Wabash and Erie canal and a portion of the Madison and Indianapolis Railroad, and that now only in prospective, after the lapse of eight years from this time, are all we have left, out of the wreck of our great and glorious system of internal improvement, from which we can expect to derive any thing to liquidate the heavy responsibilities that are now hanging over us, and experience should teach us to be cautious how we expend the valuable donation granted by Congress.

The manner in which the valuable donation, granted by the Potawatamie Indians to Indiana, some years since, for the Michigan road was expended, should be a warning sufficient, to make us careful in the selection of competent representatives at the August election—men who will have the good of the State at heart. One hundred and sixty thousand acres of the choicest land in Northern Indiana was donated for a road from Lake Michigan to the Ohio river; the land has been sold and the proceeds expended on the road, and where is the result? Echo answers where! The country sees literally nothing in return for this splendid donation. We trust, under the present Democratic Executive, a like prodigal waste of public property will not take place.

Too much praise cannot be accorded to the Hon. Robert Dale Owen, whose District, more than any other, is immediately interested in this valuable grant from Congress, for his exertions. His transcendent abilities and gentlemanly deportment as a man, won golden opinions from all his fellow-members, and when the crisis came, this great measure, fraught with so much benefit to Indiana was adopted. His constituents will not forget his praiseworthy exertions in their behalf. Indeed our whole delegation are deserving of praise for their exertions, particularly the Hon. Joseph A. Wright, representing the Terre Haute District, which nearly equally with Mr. Owen's, is interested in the grant from Congress; and despite of party feeling, the whigs of that district will reluctantly part with the services of that gentleman, whose private business prevents him from entering on a canvass, which with the proper efforts from him, his friends believe would not fail to be successful.

The following is the article from the Terre Haute Express of the 19th inst.

"THE ERIE AND OHIO CANAL.

"The recent passage, by Congress, of the bill granting to the State of Indiana about seven hundred and fifty thousand acres of land, for the extension of the Wabash and Erie canal from this place to the Ohio river, should be the subject of general congratulation to the people of the State. It has placed within our power the means of speedily completing a work of vast importance to ourselves and the country—which will contribute more than any other means within our reach to the payment of our State debt. Second only in importance, amongst the public works of the United States, to the great canal of New York, which connects the waters of the Atlantic ocean with those of the Western Lakes, the Erie and Ohio canal is essentially a *national* work, connecting the cities of New York and New Orleans, and passing through the finest valley in the world. If we shall only employ our energies in a judicious use of the means now given us, a few years only will have passed before its consummation will be hailed with pride and joy. Much depends, of course, upon the action of the Legislature—especially at its next session. Every county *immediately* interested in this work should select, as representatives, men of enlarged views, of experience and capacity. And why should not those counties remote from the line of the work, also have a view to its progress in the selection of *their* representatives? There is no part of the State which has not an interest in the work. Comparing the whole line when completed to Evansville, with that part of the Wabash and Erie canal between Lafayette and the State line, it may be safe to assume that the tolls received annually will not fall short of $400,000—if indeed they do not exceed it. This sum placed in the Treasury of the State, every year, will relieve us all from the burthen of taxes, while it will give us the means of redeeming our credit by the speedy diminution, and ultimate payment of our debt. The State has already expended a large amount of money upon this canal, south of this place. Upon this amount we are now subject to the payment of interest, and this interest is accumulating upon us every year. The sooner, therefore, the work is begun the better. The sooner it is completed, the sooner will the State be enabled to receive an equivalent for this interest. It is to be wished that a plan may be speedily matured, and that the attention of the people may be called to the subject, that as few embarrassments as possible may exist when the matter is submitted to the Legislature. How would it do to hold a *convention* of delegates selected by the counties upon the line, to consult together upon the best plan of operation, and the surest mode of bringing the matter before the whole people of the State? This idea has occurred to us, without consultation with any one—and it is merely suggested with a view to ascertain what course is best. All we aim at is, that we shall do *something*, and that speedily and effectively. It seems to us that a general interchange of opinion amongst those who feel the importance of this great improvement, cannot fail to do good, and to facilitate the work. At all events it can do no harm. What say the friends above and below?

Late Foreign News.

The Steam ship Cambria has arrived at Boston, bringing one month later news. The news is highly interesting and important. Parliament had met, and the report of Sir Robert Peel exhibits a very satisfactory statement. The modifications of the Tariff must have a very favorable effect on the foreign trade of the United States.

Two of the New York packet ships are missing, no doubt lost.

Rev. Sidney Smith is dead.

THE MEXICAN INDEMNITY.—A letter in the Richmond Enquirer gives the following account of what is become of the missing installment on the indemnity stipulated to be paid to this country by Mexico:

"Here are the circumstances of the case, as they were told to me to-day, by a gentleman on whom I can rely. The firm of Hargous & Co., in Vera Cruz and New York, and Voss & Co., in Mexico, are agents of our government for receiving the money already stipulated to be paid by Mexico to the United States. Trigueros, Santa Anna's late Secretary of the Treasury, is a principal partner of these firms. With one hand, as Santa Anna's fiscal agent, he paid the last installment ($275,000) into the other with which he wrote the receipt as agent of the United States Government. The money found its way into his own pocket, and he has absquatulated along, with the rest of his master's Minister's, whose heads are not safe on their own shoulders if caught within the Republic of Mexico. Santa Anna's robberies of the Treasury of his own Government, furnished him with an illustrious precedent for this robbery of ours. Our Treasury suffers by this financial "operation;" for you will remember he was sufficiently patriotic to give his own government a receipt for the money as United States agent. This Congress will be forced to appropriate the sum stolen, the United States being responsible for it to the claimants.

From Mexico.

By an arrival at New Orleans, we have intelligence from Vera Cruz up to the 18th inst., four days later.

Verbally, we learn that there was no news of importance stirring. Santa Anna was still in prison at Perote. Letters from the tyrant to different merchants at Vera Cruz, directing them not to give up any of his money in their hands, had been intercepted.

It is stated that the 24th of February had been fixed upon as the time of bringing on the trial of Santa Anna, and he is to send on his defence in writing instead of appearing in person before the Grand Jury.

The Postage Bill.

The new Post Office Law contains 24 sections, of which the provisions are briefly these:

1. After the 1st of July next, all single letters are to be charged *five* cents for transmission under 300 miles, and *ten* cents for over that distance. Double letters pay double price; triple letters triple, &c. Letters weighing less than half an ounce are to be accounted single, and every additional half ounce is to be charged additional single postage. Drop letters two cents, and letters advertised are to pay the cost of advertisement.

2. Newspapers of 1900 square inches or less, go free within thirty miles of where they are printed; for greater distances they are subject to the rates of the law of 1825; and newspapers of greater size are to pay the rates charged upon magazines and pamphlets.

3. Circulars, handbills, &c. printed on single cap paper, or no larger, and unsealed, pay *two* cents each, whatever distance they may be sent; pamphlets, magazines, &c., pay *two and a half* cents per copy of an ounce weight, or less, and *one* cent additional for each additional ounce, whatever be the distance; and fractional excesses over an ounce, of not less than half an ounce, are to be charged as full ounces.

4. The Postmaster General, in cases of overloaded or retarded mail, is authorized to send the letter mail at its usual speed by separate conveyance.

5. All the franking provisions of former acts are repealed [though restored by subsequent sections.]

6. All officers of the Government are to keep account of postages payable by them on mail matters, touching the business of their office, and these are to be paid quarterly out of the contingent fund of the department to which they belong. The three Assistent P. M. G.'s have the franking privilege on all letters touching their business, and are required to endorse all letters "official business;" and are to pay $300 for every such endorsement falsely made. Deputy Postmasters have the same privilege under the same restrictions and penalties. When the commissions of any Postmaster are less than $25 per annum they may be increased by the Postmaster General, not to exceed 50 per cent. on the letter postage received. The sums chargeable on all franked matter are to be paid from the contingent fund of the two Houses and the Departments, or in default thereof, from the U. S. Treasury.

7. Public documents may be transmitted by State Governors, Members of Congress, Delegates from Territories, the Secretary of the Senate, and Clerk of the House, free of postage, as heretofore.

8. The same persons may send or receive, during the recess, letters weighing less than two ounces, as heretofore; and postage chargeable on letters touching official business, and weighing more than two ounces, is to be paid from the contingent fund of Congress.

9. No person shall, in any way, be instrumental in conveying over mail routes, out of the mail, any mailable matter except newspapers, pamphlets, magazines and periodicals; and every person so offending against this provision directly, or indirectly, is to forfeit $150 for each offence.

10. Boats, stages, cars, &c., are prohibited from conveying letters or any other mailable matter, with the before-specified exceptions, and except such letters as may relate to some part of the cargo articles conveyed, under the penalty of $100 for each offence, to be paid by the owners; and $50 to be paid by the driver, captain, conductor, &c.

11. Owners of conveyances are subjected to the same penalties, for transporting persons acting as private expressers, as the persons themselves; but nothing in the act is to be construed as prohibiting the conveyance of letters or packages *by private hands*, when no compensation is tendered, or *by a special messenger employed for a single occasion.*

12. All persons who shall *after the passage of the act transmit* by any prohibited private express mailable matter, or *place at any designated spot* or *deliver*, such matter for such transportation, forfeit for each offence $50.

13. Letters may be conveyed by steamboats, as provided by the act of 1825, provided they are delivered on arrival, to the authorized agent of the Post Office Department, who shall charge upon them ordinary postage; and no Postmaster shall receive, to be conveyed by mail, any package weighing over three pounds.

14. The Postmaster General has power to contract with steamboat owners, for extra occasions, without the previous advertisements required by law, provided the price to be paid does not exceed the average rate.

15. Mailable matter is defined; and it does not include books, magazines, pamphlets, or newspapers, not directed nor intended for distribution, to subscribers, but for *sale* as merchandize.

16. Forging, or uttering stamps provided for in this law, is declared to be felony and to subject the offender to imprisonment for not less than six months, nor more than five years, and to a fine of not over $5,000.

17. Newspapers defined, and a free exchange is allowed as heretofore.

18. All penalties and forfeitures incurred under this act, go, half to the informer and prosecutor, and the other half to the Government; and all causes of action may be sued before the Judicial Courts of the States and Territories.

19. Mail contracts are to be given to the lowest bidder, and advertisements of letters uncalled for to be made in the newspapers having the largest circulation, the fact to be decided by evidence.

20. The P. M. General is to divide the railroad routes into three classes, according to the size of the mails, the speed with which they are to be conveyed and the importance of the service; and for conveyance on roads of the first class not more than $200 per mile per annum; on the second class not over $100; and on the third class not over $50 shall be paid. And if the service cannot be obtained for these rates, provision may be made for separating the letters from the general mail and for the proper conveyance of each portion.

21. All causes of action under this act may be sued before any Circuit Court or District Court of the U. S. or of the District of Columbia, or the U. S. Territories.

22. The sum of $750,000 is appropriated to supply any possible deficiency in the revenue of the Department under the operation of the law.

23. Any farther deficiency is to be paid out of moneys in Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

24. The franking privilege of the widows of Madison and Harrison is continued.

The Blaze of Glory!

That our readers may see the "blaze of *glorious* economy" with which Mr. Tyler retired to private life, we publish the list of appropriations which he pocketed as a *wind up*. It will be seen that the appropriation for the Cumberland Road is embraced. Mr. Tyler may have disappointed those who *elected* him, but he has made us *all* suffer in consequence. We shall have something to say on this subject hereafter; and expect to prove that Henry Clay, by his vote against the Road, has put it out of our power ever to get a dollar on it. We have also another plan to finish it.

For breakwater at Burlington, Lake Champlain	$15,000
For breakwater at Plattsburg, Lake Champlain	15,000
Eor harbor at White Hall, Lake Champlain	5,000
For harbor at Port Ontario, Lake Ontario	10,000
For harbor at Oswego, Lake Ontario	25,000
For Big Sodus Bay, Lake Ontario	5,000
For harbor at Genesee river, Lake Ontario	25,000
For harbor at Sackett's Harbor, Lake Ontario	1,000
For construction of a dredge boat for Lake Ontario	20,000
For harbor at Buffalo, Lake Erie	50,000
For harbor at Dunkirk, Lake Erie	20,000
For harbor at Erie, Lake Erie	30,000
For Grand River harbor, Lake Erie	10,000
For harbor at Cleveland, Lake Erie	25,000
For harbor at Huron, Lake Erie	5,000
For harbor at Sundusky city, Lake Erie	5,000
For River Raisin harbor, Lake Erie	10,000
For dredge boat to be used on Lake Erie	20,000
For the St. Clair flats	40,000
For Grand River harbor, Lake Michigan	10,000
For harbor at the mouth of the Kalamazoo river	10,000
For harbor at St. Joseph, Lake Michigan	25,000
For harbor at Michigan city, Lake Michigan	25,000
For Little Fort harbor, Lake Michigan	12,000
For harbor at Racine, Lake Michigan	17,852
For harbor at Milwaukie, Lake Michigan	25,000
For harbor at St. Louis	50,000
For breakwater at Samfordledge, Maine	20,000
For harbor at Boston	40,000
Eor harbor at Bridgeport, Connecticut	15,000
For harbor at Port Jefferson bay, New York	5,000
For harbor at Newcastle, Delaware	25,000
For harbor at Fort Penn, Delaware	10,000
For Delaware breakwater	100,000
For harbor at Baltimore city	20,000
For Hog Island channel, at Charleston city, South Carolina	25,000
For surveys that may be deemed necessary by the War Department, with a view to improvements for the protection and security of the commerce of the country	20,000
For removing obstructions in the Hudson river	100,000
For removing obstructions in the Savannah river	50,000
For Newark bay and the Passaic river, N. Jersey	15,000
For removing obstructions from the mouth of the Susquehanna river, near Havre de Grace, and improving the main channel into the Chesapeake Bay	20,000
For the Ohio, above the falls at Louisville	100,000
For the Indian chute, in the falls of the Ohio	15,000
For the Ohio river below the falls at Louisville, and the Mississippi, Missouri, and Arkansas rivers	240,000
For a ship canal around the falls of Sault St. Mary	100,000
For the Cumberland road	225,000
For opening a communication between Albemarle Sound and the Atlantic ocean, and improvement of a harbor at or near old Roanoke Inlet	50,000
For Providence harbor, Rhode Island	5,000

GEN. JACKSON.—Saturday last was the anniversary of Gen. Jackson's birth. He entered on his 79th year. The Globe says: "The President had a letter from him last night, fraught with more true eloquence than any he ever before received. This argues that his health is not worse."

The Lousiana Convention for revising the Constitution, has adopted a section providing that "no member of Congress, or person holding office under the United States, or minister of any religious society, shall be eligible to the office of Governor or Lieutenant Governor."

The Horrors of Millerism---Trial of Israel Dammon.

We have seen a report of the trial of a man who is termed Elder Dammon, at Dover, in this State, commenced the 17th ult., before Moses Sweat and Seth Lee, Esqs. The trial developes most shocking particulars, and convinces us more fully than before, that town and city authorities should interfere and arrest these sensual and demoralizing proceedings. They are as bad as the worst days of that arch scoundrel and fanatic, Cochran, who "led silly women captive," and destroyed the domestic peace of many a peaceful and respectable family. A part of the evidence we have omitted, it being too gross for publication.

Dammon was charged with being a vagabond, a common railer and brawler, neglecting to support his family, &c. He plead not guilty, and numerous witnesses were examined during the time of the trial, which lasted two days. Some of the witnesses testified that they saw nothing at the meetings improper, and others detailed what they saw—showing that the conduct of the prisoner and his associates was abominable. To this point Mr J. W. E. Harvey testified that he had attended their meetings two days and four evenings. First meeting lasted eight days; have known Dammon six weeks; Dammon, White and Hall were leaders. Dammon said the sinners were going to hell in two days. They were hugging and kissing each other; Dammon would lay on the floor, then jump up; they would frequently go into another room. Dammon has no means to support himself that I know of. The meeting appeared very irreligious; have seen him sit on the floor with a woman, his arms around her. The room they went into was a back room; don't know what was in it; I was in two rooms where there was a fire. In the back room they said the world's people must not go. Dammon said the meeting was to be a private meeting, and they wanted no one to come in unless they believed as he did in the advent doctrine. I did go to them; I went to satisfy myself what was done. I had no hostile feelings against them. Prisoner lived on his followers.

Wm. C. Crosby, Esq. testified. He was at the meeting on Saturday night, from about seven to nine o'clock. There was a woman on the floor who lay on her back with a pillow under her head; she would occasionally arouse up and tell a vision which she said was revealed to her. They would at times all be talking at once, hallooing at the top of their voices; some of them said there was too much sin there. After the cessation of the noise, Dammon got up and was more coherent; he complained of those that came there who did not believe in the advent doctrine. At one time Dammon said there were hogs there, not belonging to the band, and pointed at him and said, I mean you sir. Subsequently he addressed him again: said you can't drive us out of the town; he stared him in the face and said, I am an honest man, or I could not look you in the face, and you have hell's brass or you could not look me in the face. Dammon said if he was the owner of the house, he would compel all unbelievers to leave it; they were sitting and laying on the floor promiscuously, and were exceedingly noisy. By spells it was the noisiest I ever attended. He had seen them in groupes hugging and kissing each other. Once saw elder Hall with his boots off, and the women would go and kiss his feet. One girl made a smack but did not kiss his foot with her lips. Hall said, "He that is ashamed of me before men, him will I be ashamed of before my father and the holy angels." She then gave his feet a number of kisses.

Loton Lambert testified that he attended a meeting one evening lately, and that Dammon was very abusive; called all other denominations liars, murderers, &c. A woman was present who pretended to have visions, and who was blasphemously called the Imitation of Christ. She was said to be from Portland. Her name was Ellen Harmon. She told Mrs. Woodbury she must be baptised or go to hell. Mrs. W. concluded to be baptised. A Miss Dorinda Baker, of Orrington figured largely. She told Lambert he was the devil and would go to hell. She subsequently went into the bed-room with a man whom they call Elder White, and when they came out they were hugging each other. Miss Baker then went to one Deore, and they kissed each other. This night they went to the water and baptised. The visionist, Miss Harmon, lying on the floor several hours—from seven to one o'clock that night. Part of the time Dammon lay on the floor on his back. Elder White said if the Almighty had any thing to reveal, he revealed it to Miss H. He acted as mediator.

Deacon James Rowe testified that prisoner stood and said, while I stand here, men nor devils cannot hurt you. He had known him for twenty or thirty years, and his character was good till recently.

Jere B. Green testified, that in the meeting he attended he saw men wash women's feet, &c. Elder D. was the presiding Elder. He saw Dammon kiss Mrs. Osborne.

Eben Trundy testified that prisoner told him he must live on them that had property—and if God did not come, then they must all go to work together.

The first witness offered by the defence was Jas. Ayer, Jr. He denied that a man went into the bedroom with Miss Baker. He is an adventist, and said it was a part of their faith to kiss each other, and that they had bible authority for it. He admitted that prisoner had no other business than to attend meetings. Dammon admitted he had a spiritual wife, and was glad of it. He understood Miss Harmon had a vision at Portland, and was travelling through the country relating it.

Job Moody, one of the brethren, affirmed that prisoner had repeatedly urged upon them the necessity of quitting all labor. He affirmed that D.'s character was good. As for himself, he had been serving the Lord and hammering against the devil of late.

George Woodbury affirmed he believed in Miss Harmon's visions, because she told his wife's feelings correctly. It was his impression that prisoner kissed his wife; believed the world will come to an end within two months; prisoner preached so. This is the faith of the band. The witness said he believed in sisters Harmon and Baker's revelations as much as though they came from God. Sister Harmon said to his wife and the girls, if they did not do as she said they would go to hell. His wife and Dammon passed across the floor on their hands and knees. Some man did go into the bedroom. Heard brother Dammon say the gift of healing the sick lay in the church. Dammon advised us not to work, because there is enough to live on until the end of the world.

Others of the band testified to prisoner's good character; and one, Morrison, that they sat on the floor in order to convene more people.

Thomas Proctor testified that prisoner confessed to him that Miss Baker had an exercise in the bed-room, and he went in and helped her out.

Elder Flavel Bartlett testified that prisoner did not belong to the Free-Will Baptist Church, and was not in fellowship with them.

Joseph Knights, of Garland, testified that he attended one of Dammond's meetings at Garland. He behaved well till the meeting was over, and then he fell to kissing and hugging a girl. In Garland it is common report that he is a disturber of the peace.

Much other testimony was received, pro and con., of a similar character, and the prisoner opened his defence. He cited Luke 7, 36; John 13; last chapter in Romans; Phillippians 4th; 1st Thes. 5th chap. J. S. Holmes assisted him in his defence. C. L. Chandler and H. O. Morrison argued the cause for the State.

Prisoner again arose, and read the 50th and 126th Psalm. He argued that the day of grace had gone by; that the believers were reduced, but that there were too many yet, and that the end of the world would come within a week.

The prisoner was sentenced to ten days in the House of Correction, from which sentence he appealed.

On Tuesday, after the trial was concluded, and while the Court was waiting for the counsel to come in, prisoner and his witnesses asked permission, and sung that hymn, by John Craig, beginning—

"While I was down in Egypt's land,
I heard my Savior was at hand;
The midnight cry was sounding,
And I wanted to be free,
So I left my former brethren
To sound the jubilee."

These scenes are not enacted at Atkinson only. In this city, we are informed, "gross deeds" are done by one section of these fanatics, for there are two. One worshiping with propriety of conduct, (so far as we know,) at Bethooven Hall,—the other at private houses. The latter hold to the "kissing," "washing each other's feet," abandoning work, &c.; many of these were once respectable, happy, and comfortably situated. Now, by this delusion of the devil, they are wallowing on the floor, their characters lost, their families broken up, their daughters debased, their minds wild with insanity. It is indeed a melancholy reflection, and well deserving the attention of the humane, how this wild-fire may be stopped, our youth prevented from pollution, those saved who are not yet utterly ruined,—and those ruined recovered if it can be so. We commend to the attention of all, public authorities and private citizens, this evil in our midst; and pray success may attend their efforts to abate it, and prevent its spread and desolating consequences.—*Portland Argus, March* 13.

The *Alexandria Gazette* says: "The story going the rounds of the papers concerning the nephew of the late John Randolph, of Roanoke, is entirely incorrect. The nephew, who comes in possession of the property, under the compromise, concerning the will, is upwards of fifty years of age, is deaf and dumb, and is now a resident at the Insane Asylum in Baltimore.

WISCONSIN TERRITORY.—It is proposed to divide Wisconsin into two Territories, one to be called Superior Territory, which will embrace an area of 180,000 square miles.

An old negro servant of Gen. Washington, Samuel Anderson, a native of Africa, died near Mount Vernon, on the 20th inst., aged about 100 years.

LAW ITEMS.

MASTER AND SLAVE IN OHIO.—The following is an extract from the opinion of Judge Read, in the recent case of Hoppers, which has caused some discussion. This decision may be regarded as the law so far as Ohio is concerned, and corresponds, we believe, with recent decisions in Massachusetts.

If a master bring his slave into the State of Ohio he loses all power over him. The relation of master and slave is strictly territorial. If the master takes his slave beyond the influence of the law which creates the relation, it falls—there is nothing to support it, and they stand as man and man. The slave is free by the laws of the State to which he has been brought by the master, and there is no law authorizing the master to force him back to the State which recognizes and enforces the relation of master and slave. At one time I was of the opinion he had the right of passage through a free State with his slave. This probably would harmonize with the spirit of the Compromise upon this subject. But upon more careful examination, I am satisfied the master must lose his slave if he brings him into a free State unless the slave voluntarily returns to a state of slavery; because the master loses all power over the slave by the law of the State to which he has brought his slave; and there is no other law authorizing him to remove him. The Constitution of the United States only recognizes the right of re-capture of a fugitive held to service in one State *escaping into another*. The person owing service must escape from the State where such service is owed into another State. The act of Congress carrying into effect the constitutional provision, authorizes a recapture only when there has been an escape from the State where the service was owed into another State. If there has been no such escape, the master has no right of recaption, and the slave may go where he pleases. The master has lost all control over him. If the master brings his slave into Ohio, and the slave refuses to go any further or to return into a state of slavery, there is no escape from the State where he owed service. In such case how could the master prove that the slave had fled from the State where he owed service—which the act of Congress requires to authorize his being taken back? The truth is, in such case the slave had not fled or escaped, but had been brought by the master into the State where the relation of master and slave ceased. The facts authorizing his seizure and transportation acquired by the act of Congress not existing, and the laws of the State to which he is brought not recognizing slavery or the right of master in any respect, the slave must necessarily go free if he choose, from the fact that the master has by his own act lost all power or control over him.

The Supreme Court of the United States has decided the case of Washington county of Maryland vs. the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. The suit was instituted to recover from the Company a million of dollars, which it was alleged had been forfeited to the county by the company not taking their road through Washington county, as was required by a law of the Legislature making an appropriation to the stock of the Company. This provision of the law was repealed by a subsequent act of the Legislature, but the Company insisted it had no power to do so, and instituted suit. The Case was carried to the Court of Appeals, who decided that the repealing act of the Legislature was valid, and the right of the county to recover released. An appeal was taken to the Supreme Court, and yesterday they unanimously, it is said, decided that the county had no claim against the Railroad, and gave judgment accordingly.

A COURT NON-SUITED.—The Circuit Court at Rochester assembled for the term a short time since, the jury had been sworn, and all the preparation for proceeding with the business completed, when the District Attorney discovered that the "green bag" containing all the indictments had been surreptitiously taken from his possession.

THE RANDOLPH WILL COMPROMISE.—The negroes, (about three hundred in number,) are liberated, and will receive thirty thousand dollars, and their wages for this year. It is probable that tracts of land will be purchased in Texas, on which they will be settled. The remainder of the estate, estimated at from $100,000 to $125,000, will be divided into five parts; of which two-fifths will go to St. George Randolph, a nephew of full blood, and after his death to be shared equally between the relations on the maternal and paternal sides; one-fifth to H. St. George Tucker, Esq.; one-fifth to Judge Beverley Tucker; and the remaining one-fifth to the children of Judge Coulter, and Mr. Bryan, of Gloucester, who is, specially, exempted from accounting rents and profits.

Mr. Cushing on the War Prospect.

Mr. Cushing has written a long letter, which is published, giving his views as to the probability of war with Mexico. Mr. C. regards the withdrawal of the Mexican Minister as a matter of little moment, and supposes the threats of Mexico while the question was pending were made in the hope of deterring the United States from consummating the measure. He suggests that there are many degrees from this step of withdrawal to even the danger of war; and that it does not follow that our Minister must leave Mexico, and refers to precedents. Nor would war be the necessary consequence of a total suspension of diplomatic intercourse. He assumes our right to treat with Texas, from the fact of having acknowledged her as an independent power. If Mexico ever had any cause of quarrel with us in the case, it was for the original recognition of Texan independence, which has been done by other powers. From this he concludes that Mexico has no justifiable cause of war, and that a war would disember her republic. Mr. C. further says:—

"If the subjects of any foreign powers undertake to cruise against us under the Mexican flag, without the permission of their own Government, it will be our right and our duty to treat all such persons as outlaws and pirates; and they cannot do so with permission of their Government, unless that Government itself intends and desires war with the United States. And I am perfectly confident that neither England, nor France, nor Spain, nor Portugal, intends or desires to make war on us in behalf of Mexico."

In regard to England's dissatisfaction, Mr. C. speaks in the following manly manner:

"In this, as in certain other cases, I have noticed with shame and concern, the disposition, which some persons in the United States manifest, to consider whether Great Britain will be satisfied with this or that addition to the territory of the United States. Suppose her dissatisfied? What then? Does England ask our consent that she may add to her possessions a new Kingdom annually by wars of conquest in Asia? No more need we ask her consent to the extension of our power in America. I admire and honor the greatness of England, but I do not fear it; for while I know that her greatness dates from the day when she surrendered to us the supremacy in America, and turned her attention to Asia chiefly, so I believe that her decline will date from the day (if that day is ever to come) when she shall resume again the struggle in America. At any rate, nothing, in my opinion, can be more wild and idle, than to apprehend that the acquisition of Texas by the United States is to disturb in the slightest degree the harmony of our relations with Great Britain."

WESTERN WHEAT.—The quantity of wheat stored to be forwarded this spring is much less than at the same period last year. At Chicago, in 1844, 400,000 bushels; 1845, 250,000 bushels. At Michigan City, in 1844, 200,000 bushels: 1845, 150,000 bushels. The same deficiency exists in other points heard from.

The Catholic church at Pointe au Trembles, Canada, was the scene of a riot recently. While the congregation was at usual devotion, a band of men armed with daggers and pistols, entered and committed various acts of violence, and assaulted the worshippers.

The cotton factory erected at St. Louis, by Messrs. Adolphus Meier & Co., went into operation on the 31st ult. This is the first effort in the manufacture of cotton in that city. It is confined to the spinning of cotton yarn.

WON'T GO IN DEBT.—The citizens of Cincinnati have decided, by a majority of 721, against authorizing the Corporation to borrow $200,000 for the erection of public buildings.

OLD AGE.—Mr. John Hightower, a soldier of the Revolution, died a week or two since, in Marengo county, Alabama, at the age of 126 years. He received a wound at Braddock's defeat, 99 years ago.

ONE MAJORITY.—The Democratic candidate for Mayor of Rochester was elected by a majority of *one*. Rochester used to be a strong whig city.

Another Musical Invention.

The Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Express says—

"A patent was taken out a few weeks since, by a young artist, Mr. E. J. Walker, for an improvement upon the harmonic tones, so sweet and so difficult of attainment, even to the most skilful performer, are produced at pleasure by the use of a pedal. Heretofore, I believe, these harmonies have never been brought out upon the piano, and upon the harp and violin only by the most eminent artists. Last Saturday evening Mr. Walker gave a concert, in which he made the first public exhibition of his invention, and so far as I have learned, there was but one opinion of his success. Such harmony was never before heard from the piano. As an artist Mr. Walker has but few equals: but the exquisitely sweet, and melting tones of the harmonies produced a sensation far exceeding any effort of skill in execution. Sameness of tone has been the greatest objection to piano music, and gave a superiority to the harp and violin. This objection is now entirely removed; and the tone of the instrument may now be made to correspond to the sentimental. I believe this is the greatest improvement in the musical department that has been made since the invention of the piano; and is destined to effect a revolution in instrumental music. Mr. Walker has devoted several years, I understand, to the perfection of his invention, and will soon visit New York to exhibit there."

Would the following, by Alph. Karr, apply in this meridian? We only ask for information. He says,

"He lately sent for a tailor to make him a coat out of a piece of cloth he had purchased.

"Can't do it said Snip, after measuring the cloth, "can't do it; there isn't stuff enough."

Karr then sent for another tailor, who, after carefully measuring the material, undertook to make the coat. In due time the garment was delivered, and Karr stuck himself into it. His first visit was to the tailor.

"Well, sirrah," said he, behold me in the coat from the very stuff you said was insufficient! You see that there was stuff enough after all!"

"Very likely," said Snip, with imperturable *sang froid*; "very likely, but the son of the tailor who made it, *is not so big as mine!*"

Tall.

One of our exchanges has the following:

"A negro of North Santee, was recently swallowed by a shark, and found in the fish without a wound, and with a bottle of whiskey in his pocket."

It *may* all be true; but we should like to know who "found" him.

The *Great Gun*, a rival of the *London Punch*, has the following—"A new royal mail from Worcester, will commence running on Sunday next. Another royal *male* from Windsor, may be expected in the Autumn, but when it will commence running is uncertain."

ERRORS OF THE PRESS.—A country editor, fixing his rates of advertising, announces that he charges "one dollar for every sixteen lies."

If a Whig paper we wot of should ever receive pay in that ratio, John Jacob Astor's name would soon be eclipsed.

SAGACITY OF A DOG.—In the recent fire which destroyed the dwelling of Mr. Thompson, in West Haven, Conn., he was indebted for the preservation of his own life and that of his family, to the instinct and fidelity of his dog. This animal, observing the progress of the flames, leaped upon the bed where his master was still asleep and unconscious of danger, and by loud and vociferous howling awakened him of his dangerous slumber, just in time to enable him to escape uninjured from his burning apartment, and arouse the other inmates of the house.

CONJUNCTION OF COMETS.—A very extraordinary, if not altogether unprecedented conjunction of comets has recently occurred. The comet, which, before the interference of the moon, was distinctly visible to the naked eye, has passed within two degrees of Mauvais's comet. Had its motion been a little more rapid, we might have had an occultation of a comet by a comet; a phenomenon altogether new in the history of astronomy.

THE LONDON MERCHANTS AND ROWLAND HILL.—It is announced in the English papers, that the City of London Mercantile Committee on postage, have presented Mr. Rowland Hill, the author of the Penny Postage system, with a check for $50,000, with an intimation that they reserve, till some future opportunity, the pleasure of making a more public presentation in his behalf.

ADVANTAGES OF FAITH.—Wordsworth, the poet, is a large Pennsylvania bond holder. He *believed* he would get paid, and held on. Sydney Smith lost a large sum by selling out—*faith* is what the parson preaches to others, but did not possess himself, at least, faith in Pennsylvania bonds.

AWFUL.—Beiberich has been arrested in St. Louis, for having criminal intercourse with his own daughters. The charge is made by the wife and one of the daughters, who is *enciente*.

For the Sentinel.

Death of the Rev. S. A. Ballingall,

Who departed this life on the 20th inst, at the residence of his father, in Middletown, Henry county, Ia.

Reader—did you know the subject of this obituary memoir? A mysterious, but all-wise Providence has been pleased to beckon him away to the world of spirits; and you will no more see his face nor hear his voice on earth.

To speak of a departed friend, who had launched into a dark eternity, with not a solitary ray of blissful hope, to illumine his fearful passage, would sorrow the heart, and fill the soul with anguish! But O! it was not so with our friend and brother. For it was mine to know him long and well—educated at the same University; members of the same Literary Society; we ate at one table; reclined on one couch; and bowed at one altar. He was the tried confident of my bosom. He was a native of Virginia, but has long been in Indiana; was educated in Asbury University, and deeply imbibed the genial spirit of his *Alma Mater*. Stamped by nature with the impress of intellectual greatness, his indomitable energy and perseverence, had made him a scholar, much riper than his years. Filled with the spirit of his LORD and MASTER, his lone desire was "*to do good*." Under a solemn sense of duty, he stepped upon the walls of Zion, and pointed his erring fellow man to the Cross of Christ, in a strain of peculiarly cogent and fervid eloquence. But few indeed were his notes—for the angel of death snatched from his lips the silver trump, long ere he reached the mid-day of manhood! Whether in the college, the pulpit, or social circle, his magnanimity and generosity, gave him a warm place in the breasts of all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. Knowing his life I doubted not the manner of his death. My anticipations were not disappointed. For by a letter from a friend, who witnessed his last moments, I am informed, "That he was aware of his approaching end, and was prepared to meet his MAKER as a true Christian."

Surely, that was enough. There was a moral grandeur in his christian life; and a spiritual sublimity in his triumphant death, that throws around the scene, a sheen of supernatural glory. And while that which may appear a calamity to the mortal eye, will afflict and chasten the spirits of bereaved parents, and weeping friends, we have the consoling reflection, that while we sorrow over his tomb, angels have borne his ransomed spirit to its long sought home, in Heaven. There to dwell forever in the glorious presence of the GOD who gave it. R.

THE THREE COMETS.—This year has, indeed, been remarkable for the appearance of comets. While the astronomers in the United States have been observing the two Southern comets, (Mauvais's second, and the new one,) those of the north of Europe have been busy with the new comet in the constellation of the Swan, which was discovered on the 28th of December, by M. D'Arrest, assistant at the Berlin Observatory, near 15 Cygni. Its daily motion was sixteen minutes of space westward, and twenty-three minutes northward. It should now be visible some where in the northern constellation.

We expect to hear of discoveries at the Washington, Cincinnati, and Cambridge Observatories. They all are, or soon will be, provided with choice instrument, and recent events show that there is no want of subjects.—*Philadelphia U. S. Gazette.*

PROSPECTUS FOR THE
COON SKINNER, VOLUME FOUR.

The undersigned propose publishing another volume of the *Coon Skinner*, commencing about the first of May next, and continuing until the August election.

The Democracy of Indiana must remember that it is insufficient to gain great victories, and take no means to secure them. A good general will not allow his soldiers to sleep upon their arms in the flushed moment of success, and be surprised by a vigilant foe their laurels torn from their brows, and themselves driven from the field in disgrace, scorned by all. Our last great victory must be secured; and to this end, we exhort the Democracy of Indiana to be "up and doing." Of our own knowledge, we assure them that we shall have not only the common *home* enemy to contend with, but their cohorts are to be strengthened by Hessian legions, hired by the money robbed of our own people. The latter will be poured out with an unsparing hand, to again throw our State into the hands of the plunderers of her means and integrity. We speak by the book.

The people of the country have elected a President. Beyond a doubt, one branch of Congress will be of a complexion to operate with the President. It now lays with the people of Indiana to assist in having the other branch of the same political caste, that all branches of our government may operate in unison. We have all seen and *felt* the evils arising from a different state of things; and we have it in our power to state that we know of a large number of our opponents who have declared their desire to see the whole administration *act together*. While we admire these *professions*, we must be *wary*. Promises made are too often violated; and while those of 1840, whose name is legion, were so little heeded, we can remember also that of that great Mexican Whig, Santa Anna, while in the power of his enemies, and *his excuse* afterwards made, viz: "A promise made while in durance is void." We must then depend *on our own strength*, and, thank fortune, we have it.

Among other issues to be decided at the next August election, we may mention

1st, The election of a United States Senator, in the place of A. S. White, whose term expired on the 3d of the present month. Shall the State have a voice in the U