THE WABASH EXPRESS.

Terms $2 per annum, in advance. | Devoted to the Whig Policy, News, Commerce, Literature and Good Morals. | $3 00 At the end of the year.

WHOLE NO. 884. | TERRE-HAUTE, INDIANA, MARCH 16, 1859. | VOL. XVIII. NO. 15.

Good Roads.

The recent very wet weather certainly has had the effect of opening the eyes of the denizens of this city, to the importance of good roads running in every direction to and from us. In our judgment nothing can add more to the prosperity of this city, than that roads running in every direction shall be in such a condition, that the people from the country can, at all times, find easy access to this market. Passing along our most business streets a few days ago, we inquired of some of our heaviest Grocers and Dry Goods men, how their business was, and the almost universal answer was, 'business is dull, *the roads are so bad that the country people cannot come to the city to trade.*" That this is the true reason given for the dullness of the times, we have not the least doubt. Terre Haute is the proper market for a very large portion of this valley. It is the point that should command a circumference of least fifty miles, and it will do it, if we have good roads. Our merchants say times are dull, *because the roads are bad*, then, to make times good, would it not be wise to mend the roads? We would suggest the formation of companies in the different parts of the country, and particularly in this city, for the purpose of making our roads good. Just think of the advantage it would be to this city and to the farming interests of the country, if our roads were made good turnpike roads.—We have abundance of gravel, and nothing is required to accomplish this, but organization and a sufficient amount of determination.

Roads made in this way lead into Dayton, Ohio, from nearly every direction. Farmers can attend market or visit the city for the purpose of transacting business in any kind of weather without the inconvenience of bad roads, and the improvements of this character which surround Dayton have added largely to the value of the farming and gardening lands, as well as to city property. There is no good reason why Terre Haute should not have as many and as good roads in its vicinity as Dayton and other Ohio towns have, or as Richmond in our own State possesses. The advantage of improved thoroughfares is mutual, and everybody, either in the city or country, who can, should subscribe stock to one of more road companies. We have known turnpike roads in Western Ohio to pay from 8 to 16 per cent. on the cost of their construction. Roads in this vicinity, where the population is less dense, may not pay as much of a per cent. on their capital as that we have just named, but they will pay something in actual dividends, and much in the increased business of all business men.

We throw out these suggestions now, and hope our readers will give them some attention. We will recur to this matter again, and often.

☞ Congress has adjourned and our State Legislature was strangled to death by a constitutional provision. Congress left undone much that ought to have been done, and our Legislature has done much that it ought not to have done. Congress failed to touch the tariff and our Legislature to pass a sufficient temperance bill. The Democracy in Congress desired to double the rates of letter and newspaper postage, and our Legislature failed to pass, over the Governor's veto, a bill to prevent officers from stealing the public monies. Congress has spent much of its time in shaping the political elements so that Mr. Buchanan may have a worthy Democratic successor, and our Legislature fitted away two thirds of its time in unmanly wrangling. The President of the United States went to the Halls of Congress during the discussion of the "Post Office Appropriation Bill," and by his personal influence endeavored to secure its passage, while our Governor, by the exercise of the veto power, has destroyed the most important bills considered by our Legislature and throws open, to corrupt officials, the Treasury of the State. The nation is no better for the acts of the last Congress, and our State is, we have no doubt worse, from the workings of the late Legislature. That *Government* is a necessary evil, and the old maxim that, that government is best, which is governed the least, are becoming alarmingly true.

The Canal.

Chief Engineer Williams, of the Wabash & Erie Canal, telegraphed us yesterday that the business men of the towns along the line of canal, from Terre Haute to Toledo, have furnished means to open the canal for the next season's business. The necessary repairs will be commenced immediately.—*Lafayette Daily Journal.*

A dispatch was received at the office, in this place, on Thursday morning last, from Mr Williams, informing the office here, that a company of business men along the line of the canal, had raised $5000 to be expended at once in making repairs from here north. Mr. Williams has given orders to the superintendents on the upper divisions to draw off the water and remove the bars.

THE CINCINNATIAN.—We have hitherto neglected to notice the above periodical which is published monthly at Farmer's College, College Hill, Ohio. It is edited with great ability by F. G. Cary, and is devoted to Scientific Agriculture, Horticulture, Education and the improvement of rural taste. Each number is embellished with a fine steel plate engraving illustrating architectural taste and elegance, beautiful landscapes, cuts of fruits, &c., &c.

Among its numerous contributors are found the names of Horace Greeley, Marshal P. Wilder, Dr. J. A. Warder, G. DeNevew, Prof. Wilson, Charles Mackay, Prof. Christy, Bayard Taylor, etc., etc. It is published at $2 per annum in advance and should be in the family of every farmer and horticulturist.

Address W. H. Ongley, agent, College Hill, Ohio.

☞ Mr Jefferson never franked letters for any member of his family, and correspondents frequently enclosed in those directed to him, letters for some of his family, but Mr. Jefferson invariably gave notice of the fact to the Postmaster of the place, and had the postage of all such letters charged to him.

WATSON & SHANNON MONEY.—Our cotemporaries—the Journal and Union of yesterday, bear strong testimony to the safety and reliability of Watson & Shannon's checks, and the Journal, after having consulted lawyers and studied the law passed by our late Legislature is satisfied that the issue and circulation of these checks are not in the least affected by the late enactment.

The idea of the Legislature passing a law to prevent the issue of Watson & Shannon checks or to prevent their circulation—especially in this community, has always struck us as simply ridiculous. No such law would be respected any more than is the old Virginia law against the circulation of bills of a less denomination than five dollars.

The way they enforce that law in Virginia is about this: The Judge charges the Grand Jury, to inquire and to find under oath if the law to prevent the circulation of small bills has been violated. The Grand Jury fail to so find and upon being discharged are paid for *inquiring* in one, two or three dollar Pittsburg or Allegheny City script, or bills, of a like denomination, on banks in Ohio, Wisconsin or some of the Eastern States.

The court is adjourned and the judge treats the jury, and pays the shot with a one dollar Indiana bill, and a miserably ragged one at that.

Thus it would be here, in endeavoring to prevent the circulation of Watson & Shannon's Checks, with only this difference, our judge would not treat the jury, as he never drinks.

John H. Watson's name has become, in this county, "household words," and his Checks are considered as *Penates*—"household gods."

We would like to take a thousand of them for subscription to the Wabash Express.

YOUTHFUL DEPRAVITY!—The most lamentable spectacle we have ever witnessed, was the arraignment, yesterday, of three small boys, two of them brothers, the eldest not more than 12 or 14 years old, at the Bar of our Circuit Court, on an indictment for burglary.

Their counsel put in a plea of guilty on their behalf, and asked the mercy of the court, and they were discharged on their own promise of good behavior, we believe.

We have some doubts about the expediency of this course, although under the circumstances it was perhaps the best that could be done. As to keep them in the county jail with such associates as they would there have, would be, unquestionably, absolute cruelty.

It is much to be regretted that our legislators have not, in their wisdom, seen proper to authorize the construction of houses of Refuge to which such youthful offenders could be sent and reformed.

Keeping them in our county jails will not reform them. Nor will it reform them, in all probability, to send them to the Penitentiary, although the chances there are decidedly better than the other. But to turn them loose in our streets is only to set them at liberty to engage in other acts of wrong doing.

If there were any question as to the truth of this, the conduct of one of the boys, last evening, must have removed all doubts, for as we were returning from tea about 7 o'clock, we were startled by hearing screams, as of some one in distress, accompanied by the most horrid oaths and blasphemies we ever heard from the mouth of a human being. Upon going to the place whence the sounds proceeded, we found that the brothers of one these youthful fellows, were endeavoring to take him home. These efforts he resisted with the utmost violence, threatening that he would blow out their brains, qualifying his threats with the most horrid oaths ever uttered.

His brothers, with the aid of others, finally took him up and carried him off homewards, he struggling all the while, and uttering the most vindictive threats and blasphemies, against those who were thus kindly endeavoring to rescue him from the road to ruin, which which he seemed so persistently determined to pursue.

Now we ask, what hope is there for the reclamation of such a boy? No woman—and he is, we learn, the son of a widow—can control such a boy. Our legislators have provided no proper place for the punishment and reformation of such youths. This boy is not an exception. There are many others in our city equally as bad, though not yet detected in any overt acts, perhaps. What shall be done? What can be done? Let our citizens, especially parents, consider it well.

☞ The Prince of Wongsa, of Siam, is represented as poorly! A letter in a London paper says: "His overgrown cheeks hang in great rolls, till they are lost in the huge mountains of blubber which hide his shoulders; and, as for his belly, it must measure three yards round. His unwieldy body, his merry, false and boastful disposition, and his meanness in money matters, have given him among Europeans the name of the Siamese Falstaff. He is a merry fellow, always making jokes, and leading in the laugh. He laughs all over—rolling about, and heaving his huge body in such an alarming way, and giving utterance to such strange sounds the while, that the first idea of the uninitiated is to send for a doctor, but as he recovers, and they watch all the disturbed crinkles of fat subsiding into quiet, the laugh that he has done with is taken up by the spectators."

☞ A nephew of the Emperor Theodore, of Abyssinia, arrived at Alexandria, Egypt, toward the end of January, on his way to visit the Emperor of France. He was accompanied by his father confessor, four armor bearers and twenty servants. He has some unique presents for Napoleon, consisting of costly mantle made of lion skins, a sickle, the handle of which is inlaid with diamonds, a Damascus blade studded with diamonds, gold and diamond ornaments, and a gold bordered goat skin blanket.

☞ Seventy fugitive slaves, from Missouri, passed through Grinnell, Iowa, on the 21st., on their way to Canada.

Highland Mary.

The mother of Burns' Highland Mary who resided in Greenock for a long period, died there on the 27th of October, 1827, at the advanced age of eighty-five years. This venerable looking woman remembered almost to the last moment of her existence, with an affectionate regard, the one who inspired Burns' finest effusions, and was the object of his purest attachment, and it was impossible to hear her enter minutely into the particulars of her daughter's life, and the amiable qualities of her heart, without feeling convinced that Mary Campbell had something more than ordinary attractions to fascinate the mind of the poet. Were we to judge, from the appearance of the mother, whose fine black eye, and regular features, at her advanced age, gave indications of early beauty, we would say that "Highland Mary, probably had also personal charms, which would have influenced a less sensitive mind than that of Robert Burns. Among the little stores of the deceased, there was nothing to be found as mementoes of the gifted bard, but the Bible which he gave to his beloved Mary on thatday when they met on the banks of the Ayr, 'to live one day of parting love.' It is indeed, a curiosity, and has written on the first leaf, in Burns' hand writing, the following passage of Scripture, which is strikingly illustrative of the poet's feelings and circumstances: 'Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but perform unto the Lord thine oaths.' It is well known that after this they never met again, and that time could not efface the solemnity of this parting from his mind; and it is to be regretted that two letters which he wrote, after her death to the afflicted mother, have been destroyed—the old woman saying, 'that she could never read them without shedding tears.' The mother and daughter are now sleeping in the West Church Yard; and is 'Mary' to remain without a stone to tell the stranger of her rest?

Personal.

Fanny Kemble, it is said recently went to hear Henry Ward Beecher preach, and being asked her opinion of his pulpit oratory, replied: "My father and brother studied for the church, and then went on to the stage; Mr. Beecher seems adapted for the same change of vocation."

Senator Douglas listened to Hon. Eli Thayer's "Fair Play" speech, the other day, and when he had finished said to him:

"Well, Thayer, we shoved Jeff. Davis of the Democratic platform a day or two ago; suppose you get on in his place!"

When old Captain Brown, of Kansas, heard of the President's instructions to Gov. Medary to offer two hundred and fifty dollas for his apprehension and capture, he issued a proclamation offering two dollars and fifty cents for Mr. Buchanan's head.

Ben Perly Poore, writes from Washington to the Boston Journal.

About an hour before Key was shot, he said to a young lady whom he joined on her way home from church, and who is my informant, "I am despondent about my health, and very desperate. Indeed, I have half a mind to go out on the prairies and try buffalo hunting. The excursion would either cure me or kill me—and really I don't care much which."

Judge Betts, in the U. S. Circuit Court of New York, on Monday, decided that newspaper reporters ought to be, if they are not, exempted from jury duty. The name of Mr. Graham, an attache in one of the newspapers, being called for the Petit Jury, he begged to excused, and, on appeal to the Court, the excuse was admitted.

The following appears in the Louisville Courier.

LETTER FROM PICCOLOMINI.—The following letter was not designed for publication, but we cannot withhold it from our readers:

MEESTER EDITAIR.—I zee by zee Journale zat ze you uglee monstair dat iz call Printees say zat he iz not ashame zat he loaf me. If he ish not, I am. Be goot unt zay to Printees lut I vant not zuch—vat you call z in?—impudence—zofer.

I kees my hant at you.

PICCOLOMINI.

The following impertinent questions we clip from an Exchange, and commend them to some wise man for solution:

CAN ANY ONE TELL?—Can any one tell how it is, that during these hard times, when every merchant, manufacturer and mechanic is doing his utmost to keep his nose above water, our numerous drinking saloons are well sustained and even new ones starting?

Can any one tell how men, who absolutely cannot pay small bills, can always find plenty of money to buy liquor and treat "just happened in friends?"

Can any one tell us, how young men who dodge their washerwomen and are always behind with their landlords, can play billiards day and night, and are always ready for a hand at "poker" or "seven up?"

Can any one tell why it is, that some men who owe their butchers, owe for rent, and owe everybody who will credit them, will ask their neighbors in to oysters and birds, and always manage to have the delicacies of the season?

Can any one tell how it is, that virtuous young women who have poor ancestors on the male side, poor brothers, and are dismally poor themselves, arrange it to dress in silks, and never wear the same dress at two sociables?

Can any one tell how men live and support their families, who have no income and don't work, and why others, who are industrious and constantly employed half starve?

Can any one tell how lawyers who have no cases, and doctors who have no practice, manage to make the ends meet, or to meat their ends?

Can any one tell how it is, that a man who is too poor to pay 10 cents a week for a good daily paper, is able to pay fifteen cents a day for cigars or thirty cents a week for fine cut tobacco, to say nothing of an "occasional drink?"

Can any one tell what interest we have in asking questions that nobody can answer?

☞ The street sprinkler is now engaged filling the cisterns exhausted by the engines at the late fire on Ohio street.

[For the Express.

TO A WILE DUC.

Hoe, fas bird! how thy wings du go
What makes you hux by me so
Swif, are you skeered at enny thing,
Has sum feller firde at you on the wing,
Poor dee I i no how to Pity you
For ive ben druv round too
And had the shalves of envy plated at me
Wich hit me like wise and hurt dreffully,
And i dident no whar to fli
And hadent no wings nyther I
Fell bad i tel you dis and ef
Like you i had pieyons and could of lef
This ground ide a dun it quick
And shode them thatenvyde me a trick
Or p'raps you air not skeered but
Air goin to a nu country and got
In a hurry to see thar but you needent strech
Your nec clean of for you want feek
Thar enuy sooner and i goss
Yude better keep your fethers all slick less
You kock cole away up thar in the wind
I feel my fealine risin in my mind
O fellsoitous warter fool! h w i Envy your fate
And privilege of wings, how Grate
Mus bee the happerfying effec on youre mind
To fli away from trubble rite agin the wind,
Wen the world contemplaits youre bill and yoro feat
It thinks you air a fool, but them was maid to meet
And oppertate in the mud with but youre wings
Like the potes immagination brings
You up hi and elevates youre mind
And boddy far reechis abuv the rest of mankind
Go it rappid bird! youre progres is grate
Youre locum ocean mus bee at the rate
Of 2 skore mile an our poettically
Speakin or to cum down to vulger proze
You fli like 60 and now i mus klose
My inspyred strane and bid you fair well
And a happy jurney, may nobody shute you
And you like the country your goin to
And may you Come back in the ortum
Of the Year a companyd by sum
2 dozzen dux all of youre own happy rasin.

written by me march the 13th in yere of our lord 1856 witnes my hand Peter Johnson.

Remarkable Memory.

John Franklin was a native of Canaan, Litchfield county, Connecticut. An instance of his remarkable memory, when a lad of seventeen, will show that he was no ordinary boy.

Having accompanied the family to the place of worship, the meeting house only being enclosed, but neither ceiled or plastered, the beams and rafters were all exposed to view.

John saw that his austere father sat through the sermon with great uneasiness, but could not divine the cause.

On returning home, "John," said his father, it is my duty to give you a severe thrashing, (common in old times,) and you shall have it presently, so prepare yourself.

"But you won't whip me, father without telling me what for?"

"No certainly—your conduct at the meeting, sir, is the cause. Instead of attending to the sermon, you were all the time gaping about, as if you were counting the beams and rafters of the meeting house!"

"Well, father, can you repeat the sermon!"

"Sermon! no. I had as much as I could do to watch your inattention."

"If I tell all the minister said, you won't whip me?"

"No, John, no, but that is impossible."

Young Franklin immediately named the text, and taking up the discourse went through every head of it with surprising accuracy.

"Upon my word," said the delighted parent, "I should not have thought it."

"And now, father," said John, "I can tell you exactly how many beams and rafters there are in the meeting house."

Postings.

Bayard Taylor, after all, is only a *journeyman* printer, and his "Tales of a Traveler," might just as truly be termed "Travels of a Taylor.

Autographs may be classified and characterized thus: Those of merchants are *cents*ible; those of doctors, *bill*-ious; those of authors, *dolor*-ous; those of lawyers, *fee*ble; those of painters, *art*less, those of clergymen, *study*-ed and those of editors, *sanctum* onious.

There is a *defer* ential air about the letters received by our merchants from their western debtors.

The Boston Post says our "Peter Funk establishments are *still* going, going." We think they are far from being *still*, and certainly it is time they were *gone!*

Exhausted Receivers.—The parties appointed to receive the assets of the Ohio Life and Trust Company.

Postage stamps are made to adhere by the use of *tick* quid glue.

Love letters are, generally, only a species of *none* paper!

A friend compliments us by saying that of all the postoffices he knows anything about he considers the Evening Post the best.

A Queer Wedding Present.

The Court Journal says: "The Emperor of the French is said to have expressed the utmost displeasure at the demonstration of rage and ill feeling made at the prospect of the prince's marriage by a celebrated lady who has long held the reins of government in the prince's household. The sarcastic illusion to the youth of the princess, contained in the present sent by the lady for despatch to Turin, and which consisted of a doll and set of nursery tea cups for the bride, was highly censured, even by the lady's friends, and she has been compelled to retire a while from Paris to Gentilly, where, by the Emperor's request, she will remain till after the prince's return to Paris.

THE SOUTHERN SUGAR CROP.—The New Orleans Delta of Feb. 22d, sums up the sugar crop of 1858 at 228,482 hhds, of which 184,621 have already been received, leaving 144,881 yet to go forward. Of the number received, 85,546 hhds were shipped by sea from Franklin and New Orleans, and 95 105 up the river Assuming that the balance of the crop will be shipped in the same proportion, the True Delta calculates that the amount of the crop yet to come up the Mississippi is 84,000 hhds sugar and 150,000 bbls molasses.

☞ Spiritualists hold that each individual during his probation here, creates or fashions a soul for himself, good, bad, or indifferent, with which he enters the spirit world, and takes his position accordingly. He is thus his own judge. If this be true, we cannot be too careful of our conduct while here.

☞ Mr. Jared Smith, of Williamston, O., has just taken out a patent for a cast iron watch dog, for stores, &c. The affair seems to be gotten up on the watch principle, for you have only to wind up the tail of the animal to make him howl twice every second all night.

☞ Knox Walker, formerly Private Secretary of President Polk, will soon issue a Douglas paper at Nashville, Tenn.

☞ Messrs. W. Smith O'Brien; Thomas L. Meagher and John Mitchel dined with Senator, Seward, in Washington, on the 6th inst.

☞ Dr. Philip A. Schuyler, a grandson of General Schuyler of the revolution, died in Greenville, Miss., a few days since.

☞ Mr. George Russell, of Boston, has painted from a photograph of the original a copy of Rosa Bonheur's "Horse Fair."

☞ Jacob Bier, President of the Marine Bank in Baltimore, and one of the oldest citizens of that city, died on the 7th.

The son of the celebrated Rev. John Newton Moffett, is under arrest in Cincinnati, for obtaining money under false pretences.

☞ The Abend Veitung says that a brother-in-law of Aaron Gerolt, the Prussian minister at Washington, is a newspaper carrier in New York city.

GOOD NEWS FOR THE LAWYERS.—Judge Blackford is about to reprint the first five volumes of his reports. The supply has been exhausted for some time, and the demand has become imperative for a new edition.

☞ It costs from thirty-five to sixty-dollars for the transportation of each letter in the overland mail to California. Besides this, Mr. Butterfield, the contractor, has the pre emption of land at certain points as additional compensation.

☞ The Rev. Charles Beecher, of Georgetown, is reported to have renounced the doctrine of original depravity in the pulpit, last Sunday, declaring that men are born pure as Adam, with every faculty perfect.

☞ They have a German Morphy in the University city of Bona, in Prussia. His name is Berthold Stuhle, and his age is twenty one years. He recently played eight games at once, blindfolded, without losing a single one.

☞ Hon. Thomas Corwin, of Ohio, we observe by the Philadelphia papers, is counsel for Mrs. Fry in her application for divorce to the Pennsylvania Legislature. An exchange says his appeal to the sympathy of the Legislature in behalf of his client was eloquent and affecting.

☞ We notice that preparations are being made to erect a building on the corner of Ohio and 4th streets. This is one of the most central lots in the city, and we hope Mr. McKeen will feel it his interest to put there, a building that will be an ornament to the city. A large Concert Hall, to be called "McKeen's Hall," would pay well and be of much public utility. So prominent a location should be decorated with a splendid building

☞ The Washington Union publishes a letter from "an eminent constitutional lawyer, well acquainted with the operations of the government," who says:

No extra session should be called. None is needed. The Postmaster General *can* use the accruing revenues of the department and they will keep it alive. He will have a *load* of *labor* and *responsibility*, but he can go through it, and after curses and reproaches for the time being, will come out all the better.

HORRIBLE AFFAIR.—The Spencer (Owen county Ind.) Journal learns that on Saturday week two little boys, aged respectively two and four years, sons of Mr. A. Goodwin, of Green county, got to quarreling as to which one should have possession of an axe. After a short scuffle the elder one succeeded in getting the axe, and immediately struck his little brother in the head, killing him almost instantly.

☞ The New York Post of Friday says considerable activity prevails in the land warrant market, and prices are very firm. The large sales to take place in Kansas and Nebraska, in June, and the extensive emigration to those new Territories, which is expected, will cause a demand for warrants which must advance the value to something near Government price. Warrants for 160 acres are bought at 85, sold at 90c; 120 acres are bought at 80, sold at 85c; 80 acres are bought at 85, sold at 90c; 40 acres are bought at $1, and sold at $1 12.

Prentice-isms.

Stephens, of Georgia, declined a public dinner tendered to him at Washington before the adjournment of Congress. He pleaded business as the cause of refusal, but the fact is he has eaten so many of his own words and opinions since he turned Locofoco that the poor dyspeptic fellow has no appetite left.

The editor of the Washington Union charges the Opposition presses with pursuing very low ways. The ways of himself and his accomplices are high enough. He and his gang are highwaymen.

It is said that the people of Baton Rouge are evidently making preparations for war. They have placed two huge brass cannon in a position to rake the river. Probably they are preparing to shoot the tariff if it comes that way.

The Louisville Democrat says that the Know-Nothing organization is barked at by all the little dogs. It always was—and by some very great ones too.

A Virginia paper says that the portion of the Old Dominion called the Panhandle is inhabited by abolitionists. If the abolitionists have got hold of the handle of the pen, isn't there danger that they may upset the whole utensil?

Word in Season, to be Remembered.

The Indianapolis Journal says: "The U. S. Senate, by a party vote, every Republican opposing it, decided to double the present rates of postage. So bent upon it were they that they put the provision into *two bills*, the "Post Route" bill and the "Post Office Appropriation" bill. The House, every Republican voting "aye," struck out the obnoxious clause, and sent the bills back without it. The Senate, under the objections of Toombs and Mason, would not concur, adhered to their determination to double the postage, and so failed to pass any Post Route or Appropriation bill. This is briefly the cause of the failure of those important bills, which offers one of two alternatives to the Administration, either to close the Post Office, after a few months or to call an extra session of Congress. Let us state the history of the matter a little more fully, that all may understand it, and be able when the time comes to set the matter right if misrepresentation be attempted. On the 26th of February the Senate passed the Post Office Appropriation bill, *without any clause relating to the rates of postage.* About the same time they passed the Post Route bill, on which was tacked a provision nearly doubling letter postage, and more than doubling newspaper postage.—Every Republican voted "no" on the clause.—Thus the two bills went from the Senate. The latter bill being of importance was dropped on all hands, and nothing more was done with it. The House passed the Appropriation bill, which was the important measure, almost exactly as it passed the Senate, only adding some unimportant little appropriations, and sent it back to the Senate. It was now the business of the Senate to concur, as the House had accepted the Senate bill without demur.—But the Senate, after agreeing to the House amendments, *tacked upon this bill also the double postage provision*, determined, on some bill or other, to pass through the double postage tax. By this last amendment the Senate tried to compel the House under the "screw" of having the Appropriation bill defeated and the Post Offices closed, to accede to the double postage. But the House, on motion of Mr. Grow, decided that the Senate had no right to originate a measure for raising revenue, as this did, and sent the bill back to the Senate to strike it out. The Senate in a flurry of dignity refused, but at last consented to a Committee of Conference which, after due consultation, agreed to report to both Houses, as a compromise, the bill that *first passed the Senate*, exactly as it was passed. The Senate could hardly ask more than that they should be required to pass over again a bill they had already passed once. They yielded nothing by this course but the double postage. The compromise, or original Senate bill, was passed by the House at once, and so far as that body was concerned the Post Office appropriations were safe. But the Senate would not give up its darling idea of double postage. Toombs, of Georgia, Mason, of Virginia, and Bayard, of Delaware, declared that it should never pass the Senate, if it had the House, and they talked against time till the session ended, and the bill was killed. Remember, the House passed this appropriation bill exactly as the Senate had passed it, with a few little appropriation added. The Senate refused to receive their own bill after it had passed the House, unless the rate of postage was doubled. And after the refusal of the House to concur in this abominable tax had made a committee of of conference necessary, both Houses were offered, by the committee, the original Senate bill, exactly as the Senate had passed it first. The House passed it. The Senate refused to adopt *their own* bill, and thus killed the appropriation. If an extra session of Congress is called, or the Post Offices closed by the first of September, as it is calculated they must be, the people will bear in mind that the Senate caused the mischief by refusing to pass the bill they themselves originated, because the House refused to saddle it with the double postage tax. This is the fact, as the official reports show.

FINE SHOOTING.—The pigeon shooting match between William King, of Fort Wayne, Indiana (the man that was beaten by Blanton Duncan a few years ago at Cincinnati), and Jas. Shannon, of St. Louis, came off a few days ago near St. Louis. The stakes were $900 a side, for the winner in sixty shots at pigeons at twenty one yards distance and within a boundary of one hundred yards. Shannon killed forty one birds and missed nineteen, and King killed fifty one and missed nine. Thirty three of King's birds were killed without a single intervening miss.

☞ It is likely that at the General Convention at Buffalo, on the 16th of this month, a change of time for all Eastern and Western railroads will be agreed upon, to take effect as early as the 4th of April.

☞ In Chicago every candidate for office is a Son of Malta. The Democrat says there is a poor show for a man to get elected there, unless he belongs to that benevolent and ancient order.

☞ Queen Victoria is about to be petitioned by the Canadian Parliament to cross the ocean, and open the first Parliament in Ottaway, which is henceforth to be the capital of Canada.

☞ There is a large emigration from Salt Lake into the Southern sections of California. The local papers state that the towns are crowded with Mormon fugitives from Utah.

☞ They had a dance the other night at Madison, Wisconsin, for the benefit of the church. The Sentinel suppose it was a religious *movement.*

☞ It is said to be dangerous to be working with a sewing machine, near a window when there is a thunder storm. It is dangerous to sit near some sewing machines when there is no thunder storm.

Arrival of the Overland Mail.

The mail which left San Francisco on the 14th ult., at noon, arived in St Louis on Wednesday night, bringing four way but not through passengers.

On "Clover's Division" the scarcity of food was such that many of the station keepers were threatening to leave. Two of the employees of the company took the stage at Fort Chadbourn and came as far as Tipton. The weather during the journey was quite pleasant, and no accident occurred during the trip.

The papers are barren of news. The only item worthy of re-publication is the following from the Alta of the 13th:

RETURN OF THE UNCLE SAM—TERRIFIC STORM. PROPERTY WORTH $30,000 THROWN OVERBOARD.—The steamer Uncle Sam returned to port yesterday morning, at 6 o'clock, having been driven back by a terrible storm, which placed the vessel in great danger, and compelled the sacrifice of a large amount of property.

The Uncle Sam left our harbor at seven o'clock yesterday morning in the face of a strong head wind, which continued to increase in strength till ten o'clock at night, when it has become so terrible, and the sea ran so high that it became evident the steamer could not live in it without being relieved of the large amount of freight which encumbered her upper decks, and rendered her top heavy.

Accordingly orders were given that all hands should go to work throwing overboard everything on the upper decks, and as there were 530 men on board, a busy scene was presented, though not all would work. Some were listless and indifferent; others were praying, some swearing, and some said it was of no use to do anything—the vessel must founder—their lives were not worth two cents a piece. The sea was running mountains high, and wave after wave broke over her to the great peril of all on deck. Of course, all the men were as wet as they could be and this in a fierce, cold wind, which driving through their soaked garments made many think it the coldest weather they had ever felt.

There were about 40 tons of barely on the upper deck, and that was soon tossed overboard. The pack saddles and *aparejos* for perhaps 400 mules followed. Then went a large number of barrels of provisions. Then went 1500 sacks of coal which was in the forecastle, and weighed down the bow of the boat, so that the seas swept in and threatened to put out the fires.

There were 200 mules on the upper deck, but it would have required five or six men to each animal overboard, and case of a lurch, all these men would have been in danger of going over too; so only a few—not more than half a dozen—of the mules were thrown over. But nothing else was spared; spars, marine tackle—even the valuable trunks and carpet bags of the officers and passengers were all sacrificed. The value of the property thrown overboard is not known, but it is supposed by some persons on board to amount, perhaps to $30,000. There is a possibility that some lives were lost by the seas which repeatedly swept over the vessel.

At half past eleven all the loose stuff on the upper decks had been cleared off, and the vessel moved easier, and at midnight the wind slackened. The captain then turned the steamer about and made for port, where she arrived, this morning, as already stated.

Capt. Huntington, Mate Henry J. Johnson, all the crew and engineers, Lieut. James H. Merryman, of the revenue cutter W. L. Marcy, a guest; Mr. Tolghman, also a guest; Col Hoffman, and his officers, and most of his men behaved very gallantly, and their coolness and industry, did much to save the vessel from swamping. The vessel herself and her machinery are, we believe, uninjured. The expedition will necessarily be detained a week or ten days, to supply the loss of the articles thrown overboard, but we presume it will start again about the 20th instant, perhaps sooner.

P. S.—Since writing the above, we learn that there were no lives lost, although in the confusion at the time of throwing the deck load overboard, it was supposed that some of the men were carried of their feet and over the leeward side of the ship.

The injury to the vessel is but trifling, and soon repaired. An intelligent gentleman who was on board the vessel, stated to us that the strength and buoyancy of the ship was their only salvation, and that had she been a weaker craft with the same load, would inevitably have lost them all.

VIRGINIA REPUDIATES BUCHANAN.—The Democracy of Virginia, in the sharp contest that is before them, find it convenient to repudiate "J. B." altogether. The Richmond Enquirer says: "We have yet to see the first Virginia Democrat who fails utterly to denounce the leading measures of the President's message."

The same paper further concedes that "an endorsement of the President's message by Mr. Letcher would inevitably insure Mr. Letcher's defeat." It is rather unlucky for the repudiators, however, that to them are pre-eminently due both the nomination and election of Buchanan. They cannot shirk the responsibility so easy. Besides, the Petersburg convention, which nominated Letcher, adopted a resolution, pledging the Democracy of Virginia to "rally to the support of the Administration." This places the rebels in a very embarrassing predicament. In fact, Mr. Letcher, in endorsing the Petersburg platform, as he has done, places himself in the precise position which the Enquire says "would inevitably insure his defeat."

☞ The new divorce law takes effect immediately, and amends the old law, 1st, by requiring the applicant to have been a *bona fide* resident of the State one year, which shall be proven to the satisfaction of the court; 2d, by requiring abandonment one year, in third clause of section 7; 3d, requires service ten days, or publication thirty days, instead of fourteen days; 4th, so that if the defendant files a cross petition, the suit can not be withdrawn by the withdrawal of the original petition; 5th, allowing the court to decree such alimony as the circumstances shall render just and proper; 6th, a divorce on the account of the misconduct of the wife gives the husband the same title to her property as if she were dead. A new section authorizes the opening up of decrees, in certain cases, within two years, as to custody of children and allowance of alimony, but not so as to marry the divorced!

☞ Planters in Texas are still busy putting in the seed. A good deal of corn planting has already been done. But little cotton is yet planted. The wheat crops are giving good promise of abundance in May. There was more wheat raised in Texas last year than there was a market for.

☞ It is reported that the Emperor Soulouque, of Hayti, has fallen sick at Jamaica, and, as he is nearly eighty years old, his death is not improbable.