THE TRIBUNE.

TUESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 7.

☞ THE WHIG ALMANAC for 1845 is now ready.

☞ THE DAILY TRIBUNE is served at an early hour in any part of this City or Brooklyn, at NINE CENTS per week payable to the Carrier; or to those who prefer it, at the same rate for six months or a year, payable at the office in advance.—Persons wishing to be served will please send in their names through the Post Office or otherwise.

IN WHIG GENERAL COMMITTEE. DECEMBER 30th, 1844.

Resolved, That the Delegates from the several Wards to the Whig General Committee for the ensuing year, be requested to assemble on Tuesday the 7th of January next, at 7 P. M. at the Broadway House.

N. BOWDITCH BLUNT, Chairman.

J. H. HOBART HAWS, JOSEPH P. PIRSSON, } Secretaries. j4 2t

Tariff Matters.

The *Evening Post* is never weary of publishing importer's tables of *high duties* alleged to be imposed by our present Tariff on Foreign Manufactures. Some of these are near the truth, others marred by errors. The *minimum* principle (introduced by Mr. Calhoun in 1816, and sustained by Messrs. Van Buren, Benton and Wright in 1828,) of charging duties on Cloths, undoubtedly enables the Free Traders to make a display of exorbitant duties, to those who do not understand the matter. For instance, Plain Cottons are estimated as costing 20 cents per square yard, Prints 30, (less than in Messrs. Van Buren and Wright's Tariff of 1828) and thereon a duty of thirty per cent. is charged. This compels the importers to bring in a good article—none of your shabby three-penny fabrics—or pay a high duty. Of course, they almost uniformly prefer the former, except when they want to make out a case against the Tariff.

We have tried several times already to obtain an answer from the Post to this question—*How much more are our People now paying, in the average, for the high taxed articles than they paid under the twenty per cent. duties of* 1841–2? This is a very important branch of the subject. Will the Post face it?

The Plebeian is distressed on account of the American makers of Cotton Bagging, who are now supplying the market at 10 cents a pound, instead of the 23 which the Cotton-planters paid in 1841–2, when the duty was much lower. But so long as the bagging-makers are perfectly satisfied, and the Planters cover their Cotton at less than half the cost under Free Trade, why should The Plebeian be graveled? If all interested are benefited, why not let the matter alone?

Now we do not suppose, and have never stated, that the reduction in cost of Cotton Bagging has been effected by the Tariff alone. The raw material has also been somewhat cheapened, and this reacts on the Bagging. But all may see, unless resolved *not* to see, that our Bagging-makers can supply the market cheaper, when they have a demand for millions of yards a year, can calculate the market, keep their works steadily running, and sell all they make, than they could when they ran their works perhaps three or four months in every year, and often waited two years to sell the product. Is there any mystery here?

The *Journal of Commerce* repeats one of its habitual blind stumbles over the fact that, although we have a Protective Tariff, *Specie* is going out of the Country! We supposed it was understood that a comparatively new, thriving, rapidly improving Country, wherein Labor is high and the Currency liberal, *never retains any more Specie than it actually needs.* If our Tariff were much higher than it is, Specie would leave us whenever we had more than we needed. But it is rather presuming too much to argue that, because our present Tariff levies about thirty per cent. average duty on our Imports, we ought to be constantly drawing Specie from Nations which impose still higher duties on *our* Products. The fair inference would seem to be the reverse of this.

That we may buy too many goods abroad, even under a Protective Tariff, we supposed every body understood; that we *have* bought too many within the past year, we deem certain. Many importers have suffered for it, selling cases of goods for $400 which cost them $600. This operation appears to us likely to work its own cure, though meanwhile it takes some specie out of the Country.

☞ The *Morning News* is by no means singular in feeling a witticism more keenly than an argument. Satire is the dunce's terror, the world over, while his skull is impervious to logic. But the News does not well in fathering on Mr. Tibbatts its own farcical quiddity that, though Congress has no power to admit foreign *territory* into the Union, it may constitutionally admit foreign *States* as full partners in our Union, no matter on what Continent, nor how deeply involved in War and Debt. We cannot readily believe that Mr. Tibbatts maintains any such position—equivalent to asserting that, though a pint is less than a peck, it is palpably more than a bushel.

Mr. Jefferson's deliberate, repeated opinion* that the purchase of Louisiana was an unconstitutional act was pronounced at the same time with his active participation in that purchase. He placed it expressly on the ground of a necessity transcending all constitutional trammels—in other words, on that very doctrine of "general welfare," which none are more easily tempted to act upon than those who hypothetically sneer at it.

* In his letter to Mr. Breckenridge, dated August 12, 1803, to be found in Vol. III. page 512, he says:

"This Treaty must, of course, be laid before both Houses, because both have important functions to exercise respecting it. They, I presume, will see their duty to their country, in satisfying and paying for it, so as to secure a good which would otherwise probably be never again in their power. But I suppose they must then appeal to the Nation for an additional article of the Constitution, approving and confirming an act which the Nation had not previously authorized. The Constitution has made no provision for our holding Foreign Territory, *still less for incorporating Foreign Nations with our Union!* The Executive, in seizing the forgotten occurrence, which so much advances the good of their country, *have done an act beyond the Constitution.* The Legislature, in casting behind them metaphysical subtleties, and risking themselves, like faithful servants, must ratify and pay for it, and then throw themselves on their Country for doing for them, unauthorized, what we know they would have done for themselves had they been in a situation to do it.

"It is the case of a guardian investing the money of his ward in purchasing an important adjacent territory, and saying to him when of age—'I did this for your good; I pretend to no right to bind you; you may disown me, and I must get out of the scrape as I can.'"

To Levi Lincoln, 30th August, 1803, vol. 4, page 1, after suggesting certain amendments to the Constitution relative to the admission of Louisiana, [subsequent to the treaty,] he adds:

"I quote this for your consideration, observing, that the less that is said about any constitutional difficulty the better, and that it will be desirable for Congress to do what is necessary in silence."

To Wilson Cary Nicholas, Sept. 17, 1803, vol. 4th, page 2d, he says:

"Whatever Congress shall think it necessary to do, should be done with as little delay as possible, and particularly so far as respects the constitutional difficulty. I am aware of the force of the observations on the power given by the constitution to Congress to admit new States into the Union, without restraining the subject to the territory then constituting the United States. But when I consider that the limits of the United States are precisely fixed by the treaty of 1783, that the constitution expressly declares itself to be made for the United States, I cannot help believing that the intention was NOT to permit Congress to admit into the Union new States, which should be formed out of the territory for which, and under whose authority alone they were then acting. I do not believe it was meant that they might receive England, Ireland, Holland, &c. into it, which would be the case on your construction. When an instrument admits of two constructions, the one safe, the other dangerous—the one precise, the other indefinite, I prefer that which is safe and precise. I had rather ask an enlargement of power from the nation when it is found necessary, than to assume it by a construction which would make our powers boundless. Our peculiar security is in the possession of a written constitution. Let us not make it a blank paper by construction."

CORRECTION.—CAPT. KIDD'S VESSEL.—The paragraph we gave yesterday about this vessel was incorrect. The coffer dam will not be pumped out before the 1st proximo, and by the terms of the Company, but a portion of the Stock could be sold at any rate—but very little of that remains on hand.

To the Friends of Henry Clay.

We invite the special attention of the Whigs in every part of the Union to the following proceedings of a late meeting of the friends of HENRY CLAY in the City and County of Philadelphia. The plan thus proposed for rearing a public testimony of affection and respect to the great Statesman of the West cannot fail, we are sure, to meet a generous and hearty response. Louisiana, Mississippi, Virginia and Kentucky, we learn with pleasure, are already moving in the matter. Will the Whigs of New-York and New-England be slow to afford their efficient aid and coöperation? One grand simultaneous effort will be sufficient to raise a sum honorable to the contributors and commensurate with the dictates of the most devoted patriotism. Let the work be done speedily and thoroughly.

At a meeting of the friends of Henry Clay of the City and County of Philadelphia, held at the County Court House on Wednesday evening, Dec. 19, 1844, in pursuance of the call of the National Clay Club, On motion of Gideon Scull, Esq. the following officers were unanimously elected:

President—Hon. JOHN SERGEANT.

Vice-Presidents.

First District—J. G. CLARKSON, PETER WILLIAMSON, JACOB B. LANCASTER.
Second District—JOHN STRUTHERS, JOHN P. WETHERILL, ROBERT HOWELL.
Third District—JOHN D. NINESTEEL, JAMES VINYARD, BELA BADGER.
Fourth District—CHARLES W. CHURCHMAN, JAMES KEEN, THOMAS ALLIBONE.

Secretaries.

OLIVER BROOKS, ISAAC R. DAVIS, GEORGE WOELPPER, LEVI B. COATES.

The President, on taking the Chair, stated the objects of the meeting, when the following preamble and resolutions were presented by CHARLES GIBBONS, Esq. and adopted by acclamation.

In the elections that have lately been held under the Constitution of our Country, more than a million and a quarter of Freemen bore their testimony to the exalted patriotism of HENRY CLAY, and manifested a just appreciation of his ability and purity as a statesman, and his private worth as a citizen, by uniting their efforts in his behalf for the office of President of the United States. And we do solemnly declare it as our belief, that a majority of Whig Electors for President and Vice President have received a majority of the legal votes of the Country, and that HENRY CLAY was, and continues to be, the choice of the American people for Chief Magistrate of the Union.

Under a deep sense of the injustice that has been done to Mr. CLAY, and gratefully impressed with the value of the services which he has rendered to this Nation, during his career as a statesman of more than forty years—

By sustaining American Labor and Industry above that of all other nations;

By his zealous support of a system of Internal Improvements, to facilitate the development of the wealth and resources of the Country;

By his eloquent advocacy of the great cause of civil and religious liberty throughout the world;

By his pure American feeling, manifested in all his public acts, and whenever the honor or the flag of the Nation has been insulted, or the rights of those who seek protection under it have been violated;

By his successful efforts to preserve our domestic tranquility, and strengthen the ties of our National Union;

By his uniform and fearless resistance of all encroachments upon our Constitution, and the concentration of power in the hands of the Executive, dangerous to our liberties;

And by his philanthropy, his patriotism, and the brilliant example which his long public career furnishes to posterity of a great statesman, without fear and without reproach;

For these noble and patriotic services—for his uniform devotion to Whig principles—the exertions of which he has so long made for their maintenance, and the honor he has conferred upon the Whig party by his eminent abilities and worth, we feel an ardent desire to bear a public testimony of affectionate respect and gratitude, which we believe to be felt also by every Whig in the United States. Therefore,

1. *Resolved*, That the Whigs of the City and County of Philadelphia be invited to assemble at their usual places of meeting, in their respective wards and townships, on Monday evening next, at 7½ o'clock, for the purpose of appointing Committees to receive the subscriptions of our Whig brethren to a fund to be appropriated to this object, as may hereafter be determined.

2. *Resolved*, That the list of subscribers be carefully preserved, and that hereafter the whole of the names be collected in a book, without specifying the amounts subscribed, to be hereafter presented to Mr. CLAY.

3. *Resolved*, That the officers of this meeting be, and they are hereby authorized, to appoint seven Trustees to take charge of the fund, and appropriate it in such manner as in their judgment may best effect the object of the donors; the said Trustees being hereby authorized to concur and cooperate with citizens appointed for the like purposes in other parts of this State, and of the United States and Territories.

4. *Resolved*, That the several Ward and Township Committees be requested to pay over the sums collected by them to such person or persons as may be duly authorized by the said Trustees to receive the same.

5. *Resolved*, That we bear in grateful remembrance the encouragement that we have from time to time received from the ladies of Philadelphia and other parts of the United States in our support of Whig principles, and that we respectfully invite them to participate in the offering now proposed to the greatest of living Statesmen—the first in the hearts and confidence of his countrymen.

6. *Resolved*, That we adopt the sentiment expressed by Mr. CLAY in his late address to the Kentucky Electors, that "the Whigs are deliberately convinced of the truth and wisdom of the principles and measures which they have espoused—that we will persevere in contending for them—and that, adhering to our separate and distinct organization, we will treat all who have the good of the country in view with respect and sympathy, and invite their coöperation in securing the patriotic objects which it is our aim and purpose to accomplish."

At a meeting of the officers, held after the adjournment of the meeting, the following named gentlemen were elected Trustees, under the third resolution:

DAVID S. BROWN, HENRY WHITE,
CHARLES GIBBONS, WILLIAM REYNOLDS,
ABM. J. LEWIS, CHAS. W. CHURCHMAN,
JOHN E. KEEN.

ANTI-RENT TROUBLES.—A letter is published in the Post of yesterday, which does not contain such pacific news as we had reason to expect. The letter expresses apprehensions of an outbreak, as Anti-Rent meetings have been called in Gallatin and Hinsdale, and in Germantown and Clermont, which they call "true Anti-Rent meetings." It is feared this new combination will prevent the apprehension of Hutchins of Gallatin, a notorious Anti-Rent lecturer. The Post says, that as Mrs. Van Rensselaer, wife of William Van Rensselaer, one of the proprietors of the Rensselaer manor, was riding in her carriage, a party of 'Indians' stopped the horses, unharnessed them, and debated by the roadside whether or no they should carry off the lady. The question was decided in the negative, much to the lady's satisfaction.

☞ Col. BENJAMIN FOWLER, one of the gallant defenders of Baltimore, who so nobly distinguished himself as commander of the 39th regiment at the battle of North Point, died at Georgetown, D. C. on the 1st inst. His remains were taken to Annappolis for interment, and the House of Delegates of Maryland adjourned to attend his funeral.

DELIA WEBSTER.—The *Frankfort* (Ky.) *Commonwealth* states that Gov. Owsley has refused to pardon this woman; she will therefore be sent to the Penitentiary for the term specified in her sentence. We should like to see the evidence on which she was condemned. Will not some one give us the facts? People here doubt whether she was guilty of violating even the slave laws of Kentucky.

ABDUCTION.—On New Year's Day two boys, 8 and 10 years of age, promising lads, had leave of absence from the Orphan Asylum at Hartford and not returning at the proper hour, search was made and it was discovered that they had been taken to New-York by the person with whom they had permission to spend a few hours. Mr. Hamilton, the Superintendent of the Asylum, immediately started for New-York and with the assistance of Officer E. L. Snow, discovered the children on Sunday evening in a garret in Anthony st. in charge of an Irish family. Mr. Hamilton left town yesterday with the boys for Hartford.

NEW METHOD OF PAVING STREETS.—The Mayor sent to the Common Council last evening a Message recommending the adoption here of the method of street paving which he says has been successfully practiced in London. The Message will be found in our columns to-day under its appropriate head, and will attract general notice. If his Honor were to give a little attention to some practicable means of cleaning the streets, many of his fellow citizens would feel greatly obliged to him.

UNFOUNDED RUMOR.—We are very happy to learn that the report in the *Brooklyn Daily Advertiser*, which stated that a military company was lost in the mud somewhere between Trinity Church and the Park, and that the bells were tolled on account of this unfortunate event, is not true. The mud has been carefully probed and inspected; it is usually about eighteen inches deep, but no traces of the company have thus far been discovered.

GEN JACKSON—At the late Presidential election, according to the Missouri Republican, General Jackson presented his ticket and said, in as emphatic a tone as he was capable of assuming, "I vote for Polk, Dallas and *Texas*." The manner and the intent was not lost upon a stern old Whig who was standing by, and who immediately presented his ticket, exclaiming, as he did so, "And I, Mr. Judge, vote for Clay, Frelinghuysen, and THE UNION."

RHODE ISLAND.—The Legislature of Rhode Island assembles on Wednesday next at Providence. A United States Senator is to be elected, and the petition of Sullivan Dorr and others, for the liberation of Thomas W. Dorr, considered.

☞ Hon. JOHN M. BOTTS has published a powerful letter to a personal friend who is Texas-smitten, avowing himself a candidate for the next Congress (unless a Whig Convention should select another,) and at the same time a most determined, uncompromising, unconditional opponent of the Annexation of Texas. He utterly denies the Constitutionality of Annexation, and its expediency in every view, deeming the ultimate dangers to the South involved in its consummation far more momentous than any immediate advantages. We make a brief but forcible extract:

"If there is no power granted by the Constitution for the acquisition of Territory, as Mr. Jefferson supposed, where can the power be found for incorporating any other government with ours? As I said before, I grant the practice of the government has settled the question otherwise in regard to acquisition of territory merely, and that settled practice has all grown out of the precedent established by the treaty for Louisiana, the power for which was denied at the time by the negotiator himself. Here is presented another question, far transcending the other in importance, and a precedent in this case may soon ripen into practice, and for one, I am for meeting the question at the first hop, and never permitting it to obtain a foothold for a moment, as the only security we have for the future.

"This Government, I trust, is to endure for ages to come; and, looking into the vista of time, I am now for guarding against future danger. Establish this precedent—sanction the authority of a powerful President and two-thirds of a corrupt Senate, as it might be, to unite this Government of ours, the United States, with any other Government, and let all Europe become again convulsed with general war—let another Napoleon arise to pull down kingdoms and build up empires—to shake the world by the force of his genius and his army, and let our people, and particularly our public men, degenerate in the same rapid degree that they have done in the last sixteen years, since vice usurped the reward of virtue and unscrupulous partisanship has been made the only test of merit—and how soon might we find our free and independent Republic converted—aye, and constitutionally converted—by a President and 35 Senators, into a mighty kingdom—our President made King, and our Senators made Earls, Lords and Barons, for their baseness and their treachery!

"I will not admit that my liberties and the liberties of my children are held by any such tenure! I will not admit that any 36 men that live or breathe, or that God will ever make, can thus *lawfully, constitutionally* barter away my Government and my country and the government of 20,000,000 of freemen, to gratify their own avarice, rapacity or ambition. But if they can constitutionally incorporate this Government with Texas, why not with Russia, England, France, or the Celestial Empire? No! this is a country to itself—the land of liberty and the resting-place of Freedom; so let us preserve it, untrammeled by, and unconnected with, any other Government on earth.

"All treaties are, by the practice of the government, kept secret; they are unknown until they are ratified or rejected, except to the negotiators and the Executive branch of the government; and I do not know but that "it is a practice more honored in the breach than the observance," yet so it is. Now in the late Ashburton treaty, in settling a permanent and convenient boundary line between two great nations, a slip of land was acquired here and a corner surrendered there, and no one was disposed to raise a question of constitutional difficulty. But suppose upon the ratification of that treaty it had been ascertained that it contained a provision incorporating this government with that of Great Britain, and it was a question then to be determined by the numerical strength of the two parties, which form of government was to prevail, their hereditary monarchy, or our republic, should we all have folded our arms in tame and silent acquiescence, and have muttered through our teeth, that the President and Senate had confined themselves to the exercise of their constitutional powers, and we had no right to complain? If they had the power, and we had given it to them, we would have no right to resist it—and if they have the power in the case of Texas, they would have had it in the case of England."

SHOOTING AND STABBING.—The *East Alabamian* of Dec. 25, published at Lafayette, gives an account of three disgraceful scenes of violence which lately occurred in that vicinity. In the instance first mentioned Mr. J. H. Lightfoot discharged both barrels of a double-barrelled gun at Mr. Green Harville, one shot taking effect through the lungs. The circumstances of the quarrel are not mentioned. In the other two instances, a Mr. Massingale and a Mr. Miller were stabbed and dangerously wounded.

BOLD ATTEMPT AT ROBBERY.—An attempt at robbery of rather a singular kind took place on Monday the 30th ult., in the lumber-office of M. Sheldon & Son, 540 West-street. The thieves took the precaution to poison a large dog which was kept on the premises, on Sunday, and then made their entrance into the premises by way of the chimney, taking off the top from 18 inches to two feet, in order to make an aperture large enough to crawl through. After getting into the office, they worked on the safe, to all appearance, for some hours, as they bored holes through it, pried off the iron in many places, hammered upon it with an immense stone, and cut deep into the wood-work. The singular feature in this affair is, where were the watchmen all this time? The office is close on the street, and the thieves hammered and worked on the safe, making noise enough to rouse the neighbors, yet the watch heard nothing of it. Are those respectable guardians of the night unprovided with ears, or do they plug them with cotton, or how can thieves hammer on a safe with a stone weighing 50 weight, directly on the street, and they not hear? Fortunately for Mr. Sheldon, his safe was of more use than the entire Watch.

To-Day's Outside.

First Page.—Letter from the American Consul at Genoa: The Surveyor of the Port: The Liberty-Bell for 1845—Letter from Fredrika Bremer on Slavery.

Last Page.—'The Dying Year'—a Poem: The Canada Prisoners.

THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE FOX AND WISCONSIN RIVERS.—The Green Bay (W. T.) Republican contains some extracts from a Circular prepared by M. L. Martin, upon opening a communication between the Lakes and the Mississippi by means of the Fox and Wisconsin Rivers, to be navigated by Steamboats. The Wisconsin is at present navigable, in high water, to the Winnebago Portage; the Fox River has been navigated this year by a steamboat, and this has proved the possibility of navigating that River at all ordinary stages of water, except that part between the Grand Chute and the foot of the Kakalin Rapides. The length of the new routes to which this improvement would extend, is not less than 500 miles, while the only canal or slack-water required will not exceed eighteen miles, the estimated cost of which would be, together with other improvements on the route, Half a Million of Dollars. The entrance of the Wisconsin into the Mississipi is less than fifty miles from the South-Western border of Wisconsin Territory, and the outlet of Green Bay forms the boundary between the Territory and the State of Michigan on the North-East. The valley of these two streams, which is proposed to be made a channel of trade, extends from the North-East to the South-West, and embraces an area of not less than 20,000 square miles, rich in Mineral and Agricultural resources. It is estimated that but one-twentieth part of this land is private property, and the Government would reap great advantages from the more ready sale of the lands.

MERCANTILE LIBRARY.—We have just received a copy of the last Catalogue of this valuable collection of books, forming a neat volume of 300 pages. The Library, begun in 1820 with a few hundred books, now comprises 21,200 volumes, which have been selected with great liberality and judgment. Attached to the Library is a Reading Room, where nearly all the periodicals and newspapers of the day, both foreign and domestic, may be seen at any time. This institution is a great honor to the City, is admirably managed, and deserves the warmest support of all citizens who feel an interest in the intellectual advancement of the people. The old rule which restricted the advantages of the Library to the mercantile class has been abolished, and our citizens generally may enjoy those advantages by complying with certain reasonable conditions.

PARDONING POWER.—Governor Porter has pardoned since he has been in power (5 years) 63 criminals, of whom 29 were convicted of murder, 18 of manslaughter, and 16 of burglary. It is said the number of those convicted of minor crimes, who are pardoned, is much greater.

☞ The Chamber of Commerce of Savannah has memorialized Congress in favor of a Reduction of Postage.

Kentucky.

The Legislature of Kentucky assembled at Frankfort on the 31st ult. In the Senate, the Chair was taken by the Lieut. Governor, ARCHIBALD DIXON. In the House, CHARLES S. MOREHEAD was elected Speaker on the first vote, receiving 62 votes, against 34, cast for Joseph Haskin.

The Message of Governor OWSLEY was read in both Houses on the same day. The topics treated in it are—the State debt, the importance of guarding the State credit against any contingencies, the ordinary revenue, the extent and importance of Internal Improvements already executed, the principles of Administration in our National affairs necessary to public prosperity, frauds in elections, the several subjects connected with the Penitentiary, the Sinking Fund, the operations and receipts of the Board of Internal Improvement, the Railroad, the Common School System, the Schuylkill fraud, the several State Banks, the duties of the Legislative body, and the high regard felt by the Governor for that coordinate department of the Government. It is an interesting and able State paper, giving a brief but clear exhibit of the most important affairs of the State. That part of it referring to national politics and frauds in elections is well timed and admirably presented.

"It is worthy of mature consideration, whether something may not, and ought not to be done, to guard more effectually the purity of elections. We should not be deluded with the fallacious notion held out by eulogists of our institutions, that because riot and bloodshed are absent at the polls, a candid and honest judgment is always obtained from the people. We must shut our eyes against the light of experience, and be altogether ignorant of what is passing around us, not to know that bribery, illegal voting, and other corrupt practices often pollute the elections of the country. And if it be true, as there is, I fear, too much reason to believe, that success in elections to the highest offices, has, on some occasions, been produced through fraud practised upon the law and the ballot box, how great the necessity, and how imposing the duty of lawmakers, to provide against the repetition of such heinous offences. Unless these frauds on the ballot-box be checked—frauds made systematic by party tactics, and rendering omnipotent the party perpetrating them—enabling it to postpone the merits of the greatest statesmen, and place in power partisans and men without merit; we shall soon be a bye-word and reproach among Nations—and not without reason—for the respect of the people for their Government must soon be destroyed by the evils we have enumerated, and that being gone, there is no other guaranty for the perpetuity of our institutions. I cannot therefore too earnestly urge upon you the propriety of giving this subject that consideration which its importance merits, and of enacting such laws as may guard effectually the purity of elections. The enactment of such laws is not only due to the people of this State, but is demanded by the obligations we are under to the people of each of the United States, all of whom are essentially interested in the elections of every State in the Union, for officers who are required by the Constitution of the United States to be elected by the voters of all the States. And may we not, in return, expect that each of the other States, under the influence of the same high obligations, will not fail to adopt measures equally effective in the prevention of corruption and preserving purity in their elections?"

New-York & Erie Railroad.

This road was opened for business to Goshen on the 23d Sept. 1841. The gross receipts

The year ending Sept. 30, 1842, were	$101,557	62
" " " 30, 1843, "	122,722	70
" " " 30, 1844, "	158,285	23

Of these amounts the parts derived from the Railroad proper during each year, were as follows:

1st year	73,525	67
2d "	95,735	41
3d "	122,768	95

The remaining sums having accrued from the steamboat.

The nett profits of the Railroad during each year were as follows, viz:

1st year	31,732	26
2d "	43,215	35
3d "	55,790	02

The number of passengers was for the

1st year	51,974
2d "	63,610
3d "	81,173½

The number of tons of freight of 2,000 pounds each was, for the

1st year	23,366 929/1000
2d "	28,996 411/1000
3d "	36,369 235/1000

The income on the Railroad during each year was made up as follows—from freight,

1st year	$13,677 37.	From passengers	34,846 30
2d "	60,070 85	" "	35,664 55
3d "	76,046 50	" "	45,402 45

During the first year and three-fourths of the second the length of the Railroad in use was 46 miles; for the remainder of the time the line was open to Middletown, 53 miles.

REPORT UPON COAL.—Professor Johnson, who was appointed, under a resolution of Congress, to examine and report upon the character and value of the coals of this country, has made his report. It is a very interesting document. Forty-five varieties of coal were subjected to examination and experiment. He establishes, by the most conclusive experiments, that the sample of coal furnished by Atkinson & Templeman, from their Cumberland (Md.) mines, is the best for purposes of steam navigation, having a greater evaporative power, under given *bulk*, than any other. The following are the remarks of Professor Johnson on this point:

"For the purposes of steam navigation, the rank most important to be considered is the fifth, in which the coals stand in the order of their evaporative power under given bulks.

"This is obviously true, since, if other things be equal, the length of a voyage must depend upon the amount of evaporative power afforded by the fuel which can be stowed in the bunkers of a steamer, always of limited capacity. At the head of the fifth rank stands Atkinson & Templeman's Cumberland coal, on the right of which is 566.2, the number of pounds of steam produced by one cubic foot of the coal."

In considering the value of *equal weights* of the several coals, it is hardly necessary to mention that a different order of samples and different relative values will be found. [Balt. Pat.

THE FANATICISM OF SLAVERY.—The *Tuscaloosa* (Ala.) *State Journal*, speaking of the expulsion of Mr. Hoar from Charleston, utters itself on this wise:

"A statute similar to that of South Carolina, of which Massachusetts complains, is now of force in Alabama; and it may soon become our turn to meet a like effort to tamper with the slave interest. With all their philanthropy, the citizens of Massachusetts, generally, are very chary of their dollars—and perhaps it would be well for our legislature to enact a law at its present session imposing a heavy penalty *in dollars and cents*, with imprisonment at hard labor in the State Penitentiary, until the penalty be met, on any agent, attorney, or other person who may visit Alabama on the same business that took Hoar to Charleston."

☞ Henry C. Bosler, Esq. U. S. Marshal for the Western District of Pennsylvania, died of apoplexy on the 26th ult. at his residence in Meadville.

BALL OF THE CITY GUARD.—The Annual Soirée of this first class Company is to come off on the 23th instant at Niblo's. These Balls of late years have been the most delightful reunions, and have combined all that beauty, music, brilliancy of decoration and gentlemanly courtesy of the Managers could offer to make an evening pass most pleasantly away. The coming Ball, judging from the arrangements in progress, will exceed its predecessors in the attractions of the ball-room.

☞ MR. CLIREHUGH gives his second Illustrative Lecture on Scottish Minstrelsy at the Society Library *this evening*. The Songs of Burns will be the particular subject of the Lecture, and some of the best of them will be sung as no other man among us knows how to sing them. Mr. Clirehugh deserves a more numerous, though he could hardly ask a more respectable or intelligent audience, than that which listened to his first entertainment.

☞ The beautiful Opera of 'SEMIRAMIDE' will be performed for the third time to-night. It is undoubtedly the best Opera ever brought out in this country. The Duet by Borghese and Pico forms the principal attraction of the piece, and has awakened an enthusiasm, for which the common methods of bestowing applause furnish but a poor expression.

THE ORPHEAN FAMILY'S CONCERT.—From the interest already shown by our musical public in this new family of Vocalists, we think we are safe in predicting an overflowing house this evening at the Society Library. Their programme embraces their best pieces.

Things in Washington and About.

Correspondence of The New-York Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5, 1845.

MR. CUSHING has at length arrived in this city. He came yesterday, and puts up at Fuller's Hotel.

Rev. Dr. OLIN, President of the Wesleyan University in Middletown, Ct. preached in the Capitol to-day. His sermon was able and eloquent, and was listened to with great attention by a large audience.

You will see by a letter from Col. Polk, published in Friday's or Saturday's Madisonian, that he intends to come directly through to Washington, where he will arrive about the middle of February. Then what a rush there will be of men struggling to serve their country! Even the young Polk, the President's brother, who is stopping at Coleman's Hotel, has great attention shown him—much more than if he was the brother of any body else. The letter is in reply to an invitation from the Loco-Focos of Hagerstown, headed by J. J. MERRICK, a brother of Senator MERRICK, who turned Polk man with the design of having the State turn so too, but it wouldn't. To visit Hagerstown he would have to leave the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at Hancock, and travel some forty or fifty miles by stage through Washington and Frederick Counties, taking the cars again at Frederick City. "Young Hickory" knows better than to put himself n such a predicament. He remembers what befel "Old Hickory" in the same place when he was coming to assume the reins of Government.

After his election in 1828, Gen. Jackson was coming to Washington, about February, 1829. He arrived in Hagerstown on Saturday evening, and astonished several old ladies who crowded to see him, and reported, as their deliberate opinion, that he ate his victuals as other people. The old General wanted to visit some church on Sunday, and the memory of his Presbyterian ancestors made him bend his steps towards a church of that persuasion. Of course he was a great "Lion," and the church was better attended than usual. Unfortunately, however, the Minister had chosen for his text these words—"The *Devil* goeth about as a roaring *Lion*." The Loco Focos were very much displeased with the insinuation supposed to be conveyed in the text, so they won't get Young Hickory "going about" in that direction.

The Eighth of January (Wednesday next) will be a great day here with the "Young Democracy." It was intended that Texas should be annexed on that day, but I rather guess it will not. Dr. HAMMETT, one of the Mississippi Representatives, had made up his mind to introduce a motion, on that day, that one of the vacant niches in the rotonda of the Capitol should be filled, by some eminent Artist, with a painting of the Battle of New-Orleans. Unfortunately for the Doctor, who is a very clever Loco-Foco, on inquiry, it was found that the two vacant niches were already ordered to be filled by other paintings. I tried all I could to help the Doctor out of the difficulty by recommending that, on the 8th of January, he should move to have another niche made for the glory of New Orleans. To be sure the Capitol would have to be reformed, if not rebuilt, for this purpose, but then it's for General JACKSON, and that name is so potent that it can change the perpetuation and extension of Slavery into an "enlargement of the area of freedom."

If, however, we can't have any thing else done on the glorious eighth, we can have parties; and so Mrs. Blair, the lady of The Globe, is to give one in honor of Old Hickory, to be attended by all the young saplings of the Democratic forest.

The more important business of the session, private claims, and almost every thing else, will be put off, to talk to Buncombe on Texas.

Mr. J. R. INGERSOLL's bill on the Naturalization Laws is ready to be presented. As I told you before, he does not propose to extend the time of residence, but proposes some restrictions on the mode, with the design to prevent frauds. This is as necessary for the foreigners as for the natives; for in most of the cases where frauds are committed, the Irish and others are imposed upon, and forced to violate laws, which they would not do of themselves. It is the work of Loco-Foco demagogues. I don't think the bill is without faults. The faults, however, may be stricken out. I shall send you a synopsis of it to-morrow or next day.

The weather is fine to day, but rather cloudy.

Yours, &c. RICHELIEU.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

BY THE REPORTER OF THE N. Y. TRIBUNE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4, 1845.

THE SENATE was not in session to-day.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES was again occupied with a debate on Texas, with the exception of some unimportant business before going into Committee of the Whole. Among other items of business was a memorial from a number of "Friends" resident in New-York City, (as I understood it) presented by Mr. PHŒNIX; the reading of which having been proceeded with for about ten minutes, a motion was made to lay on the table, which prevailed by the casting vote of the Speaker—there being Yeas 87, Nays 87. The memorial was in opposition to Slavery. The Speaker made yeas 88. The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, Mr. HOPKINS of Virginia in the Chair.

Mr. BAYLY of Virginia, who had the floor, rose and said he would yield the floor to any opponent of Annexation. The Whigs seemed disposed to let the question go immediately to a vote. No one appearing to claim the floor, a general call of "Question" was made.

Mr. RHETT, of South Carolina, rose and proposed that the vote be merely taken on the preamble to Mr. Douglass's joint resolution, declaring that Texas should be annexed; leaving the quarrel about particulars to be settled as it might be.

Mr. J. R. INGERSOLL rose and opposed such a procedure in an able speech of an hour, showing that this was the way the late canvass was carried on, by avoiding distinct issues. He proved its unconstitutionality, the want of necessity for Territory, and answered the arguments generally made in favor of Annexation. In opposition to the constitutionality of the measure, he quoted the opinions of Jefferson, Wm. Pinckney, &c. &c.

Mr. PAYNE of Alabama spoke in favor of Annexation and in reply to Mr. Ingersoll.

Mr. WINTHROP of Mass. obtained the floor, after which the committee rose and the House adjourned till Monday.

Mr. CLINGMAN of North Carolina will probably speak in opposition, as he rose, with Mr. Winthrop, to claim the floor. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS will probably keep silent on this question, though his speech would be of great interest.

It is said that Mr. MCKAY is concocting a new scheme to break down the Tariff, of which I may be able soon to give you some information. It will probably be a slight alteration of his bill of last session.

Some New-York Loco-Focos have prepared to speak against Annexation—whether they will be whipped into the traces remains to be seen.

☞ The Lexington Observer says it is not true that Charles, the favorite servant whom Mr. Clay has liberated, is too old to render service to his owner. So far from it, he has scarcely reached the prime of manhood. He is not, we believe, thirty years of age. As to his ability to render service, it may simply be remarked, that after he was emancipated by Mr. Clay, he was told that he should receive a compensation of *ten dollars a month* so long as he chose to remain in the service of his late owner, which proposition he readily accepted.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]

☞ Messrs. BARKER & TOWLE, No. 71 Catharine street, offer to sell their remaining Fall Stock at 25 per cent. deduction from former prices. Those who have not fully supplied themselves with Dry Goods, will find this a rare chance to do so.

CLOSING SALES OF MAGNIFICENT PAINTINGS.—We learn that all the choice European Paintings remaining unsold of the recent exhibitions in the Granite Building, Broadway, will be sold on Tuesday morning next, in addition to which more than 150 magnificent Foreign Paintings, ancient and modern, never before exhibited, the whole forming the most beautiful collection which has yet been offered to the public. The Gallery is now open to Ladies and Gentlemen. Entrance in Chambers-street.

☞ Not cheap Coal—but the best quality only, is for sale at the Coal Office in this building, adapted in kinds and sizes to the various uses, and delivered in any quantity, from $5 50 to $6 per ton.

CITY AFFAIRS.

MONDAY.

Board of Aldermen—Special Meeting.

The President, Richard L. Schieffelin, Esq. was called to the Chair, but being absent, the Alderman of the 5th took his seat and presided.

The minutes of the last meeting were not read, a motion being made to dispense with the same.

Petitions Referred—Of Daniel Hyde and others, to have Jefferson Market lit with gas: Adverse to widening the Bloomingdale Road, presented by numerous citizens, owners and lessees of property in that vicinity; Of Butchers and others against selling meats in the public streets; Of Fishermen and others, against selling fish in the market on Sundays; Of William Holbridge for remuneration for services rendered the city; Of Susannah Dyckman for compensation for damages done her while in the employment of the Commissioners of the Alms-House; Of John Adams to have stones removed from 50th street, near the junction of the Bloomingdale Road; Of sundry persons to have a gutter cut through the sewer in the 8th Avenue—the Manhattan Gas Company being the principal petitioners. Some other petitions of individual interest were presented.

Message from the Mayor—In relation to improvements in paving streets—Referred to the Committee on Streets.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, New-York, Jan. 6th, 1845.

To the Hon. the Common Council of the City of New-York:

GENTLEMEN: Among the subjects which I consider it my duty to bring before you, there is perhaps none having stronger claims upon your attention than that of an effectual