they are not adapted to the wants and interests of the people for the government of whom they are made or provided, they should be amended or repealed; but so long as they remain the laws of the country, they are to be enforced, whatever their character, or however they may affect individuals or communities. But this is not the only obligation that rests upon Government while engaged in enforcing obedience to the laws. A high duty devolves upon it to seek out any causes of discontent that may exist among its people. I will not suppose it possible that in bringing this subject to your notice, I shall be regarded as giving countenance to legislation affecting or that may assume to affect private rights or impair or weaken the obligation of contracts. The great object of the institution of government is the protection of the rights of persons and property, and that government which fails to accomplish this object, is utterly worthless; and you do not need to be informed that enactments which seek to disturb or divest private rights that have put on legal forms, are wholly inoperative. It is believed that one of the fruitful sources of disquietude among these tenants is the apprehension that their landlords have no title to the lands, and that after paying rents and making improvements for a long series of years, they may, by virtue of a superior title to that under which they hold, be ejected from their possession. All persons who have held large tracts of land can testify to the facility with which reports unfavorable to the title can be put in circulation, and to the mischievous influence of such reports when unfounded. This apprehension that the title to the lands which we are considering is invalid, has brought to the Legislature from time to time applications for the passage of a law requiring the landlord, in actions to be brought by him against his tenants, to prove he had a good paper title to the lands at the time the lease under which the tenant holds was executed. In support of these applications, they have stated, and correctly, to that by the law as it now exists, the tenantry itself is evidence of the landlord's title, so that while in possession they are not committed to more evidence of its invalidity, and that if they abandon the lands, they have no title to assert in themselves, except such as is derived from the defective title of their landlords, which they are seeking to defeat. They also say, and with equal truth, that as the laws now are, their possession and that of their ancestors, as tenants, in which it has been continued for a sufficient number of years, enures as a title to their landlords as effective against all claimants other than the Government, as the most perfect title, and they ask that the laws in this particular may be changed. My opinions as to the propriety of such legislation were early formed and fully expressed at a former period when occupying a responsible office, that of a Representative of a highly intelligent constituency in the populous branch of the Legislature of this State.

In the absence of laws governing the acquisition of property, there could be no titles, and he who requires title to property in any of the ways known to the laws at the time of its acquisition, is entitled to be protected in the enjoyment, and no action of the Government can divest him of the interest, except the exercise of that extraordinary attribute of sovereignty known as the right of eminent domain, by which private property is taken for public use. It therefore follows that he who has acquired title to land by having been in possession himself, or by those holding under him as tenants for such a terms of years as the laws of their country declare shall work a title, is just as much entitled to be protected in its enjoyment as he who is enabled to trace his paper title to the common source. Legislation, which can be subjected to the suspicion of assuming to weaken or impair, however slightly, the title to lands, cannot be too carefully avoided; and inasmuch as that which is sought by the tenants in this respect is obnoxious to that charge, and would be wholly inoperative, I have not been able to bring myself to its support. The object to be obtained by the tenants is the ascertainment of the title of their landlord; and this you have ample power to effect without offending in the smallest particular against the laws that govern the rights of property, or against those equitable obligations which this State has so often recognized in cases where it has had the legal title to lands in which others were equitably interested. In actions to be brought by the State involving the title for lands, the obstacles that are thrown in the way of private persons in its investigation would not be encountered, and the adjudication would be entirely conclusive and should, and it is believed would, be entirely satisfactory to the tenants. If an action or actions of ejectment should be brought by the State, in such case or cases as you may by your wisdom prescribe, and be fairly tried, the State will have discharged a duty which, in my judgment, it owes to the importance of the subject, and to the interest as well of the landlords as of those holding under them in the character of tenants and purchasers. It is difficult to understand why the most sensitive holders of large tracts of land should feel alarmed at the prospect of such action on the part of the Government. The confirmation of their titles cannot fail to render essential service in allaying irritation and disquietude, and hence increasing the value and productiveness of their lands; and I am quite sure it will not be supposed that the State will engage in such an enterprise for the purpose of enriching itself. The general current of her action in regard to escheats since the formation of Government, furnishes the surest guaranty of her justice and magnanimity; and if it shall be found that the legal title to any of the lands for the receiving of which any such prosecution shall be instituted, shall be in the State, she will cheerfully release the same to such just claimants as may be equitably entitled to the lands. In such cases the State, in divesting itself of the title, would possess the power—and, it is not doubted, would exercise it—to protect every equitable interest that should be found to attach to the lands. I will only add, in this connection, that while I should regard every attempt on the part of Government to embarrass or restrain private acquisitions as an unwarrantable and despotic assumption of power, I cannot doubt that it is the duty of Government, in disposing of its public domain, to confine the sales, so far as is practicable, to small parcels, and to actual settlers.

☞ Under the New Constitution I think it is now quite apparent that the Judiciary, with wise statutory enactments, will be eminently successful.—Much has been done by your predecessors in providing for its organization, but under a new system experience will suggest from time to time the necessary objects for farther enactments. The power to refer equity causes has not yet been conferred, and references are now, in effect, submissions to arbitration, and there is no power in the court to correct errors, if any, in the reports made or to be made by such referees or arbitrators, and immediate legislation to provide for this omission seems to demanded.

A proposition was submitted to the last Legislature to provide by laws for standing referees, but I am inclined to think such legislation is in conflict with so much of the Constitution as abolishes Masters and Examiners in Chancery. In my Message in the opening of last Session, I recommended such a practical division of labor among the Judges of the Supreme Court, as would designate one of the Judges in each District to hold Equity Courts, leaving the common law duties to be discharged by the others, and I respectfully renew the recommendation. Out of the First District the force, after detaching one Judge, will I think be amply sufficient for the discharge of the common law duties, and if we except that District, I cannot doubt that a single Judge by holding two Equity Courts in each County in his District annually, will hear and decide every cause in readiness. A liberal system of voluntary exchange by Judges of several Districts is doubtless unobjectionable; but I have been unable from the beginning to understand why each Judge should be required to divide his time among the several Districts. As required by the Judiciary act of the 12th of May last, after hearing arguments, the Judges must necessarily remain together for deliberation, and to prepare written opinions, and to Judges residing remote from each other, this detention is a matter of great inconvenience, and the effect of such inconvenience can scarcely, I apprehend, fail to render their deliberations hasty and unsatisfactory.

Beside, the effective force of the Court is diminished by the length of time occupied in traveling. A judge can much easier and much better discharge the duties of the place after he has become familiar with the habits of the people where his services are required, and with the class of questions that there arise; and you are respectfully requested, in your deliberations touching the judiciary, to consider as to the propriety of making amendments in conformity with these suggestions.

By a communication from the Secretary of War, under date of May 19, 1846, my predecessor was requested to cause to be enrolled and mustered into the service of the United States seven regiments of infantry. A requisition was subsequently received for one of said regiments to proceed to California; and in obedience thereto, the 7th regiment, under the command of Col. J. D. Stevenson, sailed from the harbor of New-York in the month of September, 1846. From this regiment nothing official has been received since its departure. In the month of November, 1846, the Secretary of War made a requisition for another regiment from this State, and the 1st regiment was mustered into the service of the United States and sailed for Mexico in the month of January last, under the command of Col. Ward B. Burnett. By the report of the Adjutant General, to be forthwith transmitted to you, you will be furnished with all the official information possessed by this Department in relation to the two regiments mentioned, and also to the military condition of the State.

The war with Mexico has imposed new and delicately interesting duties upon you. It may, and probably will, in its progress, claim farther sacrifices from this State; and I rely with the utmost confidence upon your readiness, as the representatives of a gallant and patriotic people, to discharge with alacrity any duty that may be cast upon you. In the Legislature of this State, in 1846, when the first intelligence was received that American blood had crimsoned the waters of the Rio Grande, upon a proposition to appropriate money for the enrolment of troops, in expressing what I then believed to be my duty as a member of that body, I said: "That our country is in a state of actual war with Mexico none can doubt. The causes of that war are to me now unimportant. All here know that from the first I was opposed to the annexation of Texas: that is now a matter foregone. Texas is now bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh, and they who invade any portion of that country invade the United States; and I will as soon vote for the enrolment of troops to protect the soil of Texas as to protect the spot on which I now stand. Whether the conduct of the Government, in ordering our army to march into that country, has been such as it should be, or not, is also a foregone conclusion. Our country has been invaded, and the blood of our citizens has been shed; and I will sustain that country and those citizens against a foreign enemy, at all times and under all circumstances, right or wrong." Although these impulsive suggestions were naturally consequent upon the receipt of intelligence that the blood of our people had been shed, such impulses, in matters of this description, may generally be trusted, and I said nothing which upon mature consideration I do not feel it my duty to reiterate. I do not, however, mean to be understood as saying nor can such an inference be fairly drawn from anything I have said that it is unimportant in a war with a foreign country that a Government should be right. It has everywhere been truly said that war is among the direst calamities that can befall a nation, particularly if its people have felt the subduing and refining influences of Christianity and civilization, and can only be resorted to for just cause, and be justified by high regard for the integrity and honor of the nation. National honor is not merely the ethereal echo of high sounding words; it is intimately connected with our well-being, the power of self preservation, and indeed our very existence as a nation. The power to declare war is vested in the Congress of the United States, and when once engaged in war, either under a declaration by Congress, or into which we have been involuntarily plunged by the aggressions of a Foreign Government, the power to make peace rests with the President of the United States and the Senate; and that doctrine which teaches obedience to municipal laws, whatever their character, until they are modified or repealed, requires of us as citizens of the United States, and in our corporate capacity as one of the members of the Confederacy, to come up to the help of the Government against a foreign enemy, however we may have been involved in the war, and whatever its causes or objects. Such is our condition now; we are in a war with Mexico, and in its progress the country has responded to the demands of patriotism with a spirit and zeal as pure and ardent as that which burned in the bosom of those who fought the battles of the Revolution. Under officers whose names will live as long as the knowledge of letters by which their heroic deeds have been recorded, our armies have achieved a series of the most brilliant victories known to the history of ancient or modern times.

The country, always indisposed to war, would receive with joy intelligence of an honorable peace; but to render peace honorable, I think, she would demand, and has a right to require, that it shall be accompanied with such indemnity as, upon the page of history, will be evidence of an acknowledgement by Mexico of the superiority of our armies; but of the character and extent of such indemnity I may not speak in this communication.—With the return of peace will come a season of calm deliberation and searching inquiry; the causes, the conduct, and the result of the war may be then properly and usefully investigated: but until our enemy shall have been subdued, discussions involving collisions of opinion at home cannot fail, by exciting false expectations in Mexico, to embarrass negotiations for peace. I confidently trust, therefore, that such discussions will not be allowed to distract your deliberations so long as there is an enemy in the field. I feel assured that we shall look only to the honor of our flag. How far legislation by you may be demanded, resulting from the war with Mexico, I apprehend cannot at this time be determined. Ohio, and I believe others of the States, have made appropriations to meet the expenses of soldiers, incurred after enlistment, and before being mustered into service, looking to the General Government for reimbursement. If there shall be a farther requisition upon this State for troops, and provision shall not be made by the Federal Government to meet the expenses mentioned, I respectfully submit that it will be your duty, as I doubt not it will be your pleasure, to make the necessary appropriations. Before taking leave of this subject, I respectfully invite your attention to some fitting and proper legislation in regard to the remains of the brave men from this State who have fallen in Mexico. The New-York troops have been found in the thickest of the fight, and where the battle raged most fiercely, vieing with each other in deeds of noble daring on every field, from Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico. It is one of the offices of Christian civilization to cultivate a kindly and delicate regard for the remains of deceased friends; hence the emotions that are felt as we linger in silence among the resting places of the dead. It has been suggested that legislation in this respect should be confined to the officers inasmuch as it would be difficult, if not impossible to identify the bodies of soldiers belonging to the troops of this State. I think, however, it will be found that in most cases they have been buried separately from other dead. If so, a small appropriation would effect this much to be desired and humane object. The bodies of many of our officers of the higher grades have been brought home by their relatives or by the kindness of friends; and I respectfully recommend that provision be made by the State for bringing back the remains of the residue of the soldiers and officers, that such of them may be delivered to their kindred and friends as may be ready to receive them—and that for the residue of the gallant dead a common resting place may be provided; and, if not too difficult to be obtained, in ground made classic by Revolutionary scenes.

In conclusion, I have only to express the hope that in the discharge of the duties to which I have referred, and all others pertaining to your representative capacity, you will be cheered by the smiles of Heaven, and enlightened by Divine Wisdom.

January 4, 1848. JOHN YOUNG.

CITY ITEMS.

NEW-YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY.—At the annual meeting of the New-York Historical Society, held last evening at its rooms in the University, the following officers were unanimously elected for the ensuing year:

For President—Hon. ALBERT GALLATIN, LL.D. *For First Vice-President*—Hon LUTHER BRADISH. *For Second Vice-President*—Rev. THOMAS DE WITT, D.D. *For Foreign Corr. Secretary*—JOHN R. BARTLETT. *For Domestic Corr. Secretary*—JAMES W. BEEKMAN. *For Recording Secretary*—ANDREW WARNER. *For Treasurer*—WILLIAM CHAUNCEY. *For Librarian*—JACOB B. MOORE.

Gen. Wetmore read a long and very interesting report of the Executive Committee. Hon. Mr. Bradish announced, in an eloquent speech, the death of Chancellor Kent, one of the Society's Ex-Presidents; and Charles King, Esq. presented resolutions on the subject, which were discussed in a most interesting manner by Rev. Dr. McVickar, DAVID B. Ogden, Esq. Philip Hone, Esq. Benj. F. Butler, Esq. and other gentlemen. Rev. Dr. Griswold presented resolutions on the deaths of Hon. Timothy Pitkin of Connecticut, Hon. William Smith of Canada, and George H. Colton, Esq. of this City, late members of the Society. Among the distinguished gentlemen present were Gen. Gaines, Capt. Levy, U. S. N., Rev. Dr. Sourothy of England, J. Levy, Esq. Capt. Gerny, U. S. N, and H. T. Tuckerman.

☞ Col. Webb was engaged yesterday in endeavoring to obtain signatures to a call for a Taylor Mass Meeting, which he intends to get up in this City; we did not learn with what success, but the City of New-York is large and contains a great many people.

☞ By an advertisement in this paper it will be be seen that William Hall & Son succeed the house of Firth & Halland of Firth, Hall & Pond, in the manufacture of musical instruments and in the publication and importation of music generally. The long experience of the elder Mr. Hall and the active and enterprising business acquirements of the Junior member of the firm cannot fail to secure for the new house a continuance of the liberal patronage it has hitherto enjoyed.

MR. LOVER.—This gentleman, whose entertainments have proved so popular with our fashionable New-Yorkers, will appear to-morrow night in new and original characters at Col. Mann's Broadway Theater.

BROOKLYN AFFAIRS.

NEW YEAR'S GIFT.—Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, pastor of the Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, was presented with four hundred dollars, as a New-Year's gift.—Such a testimonial of love and confidence to one so recently settled must be pleasing and serve to strengthen and confirm the best of feelings between pastor and people. Mr. Beecher has already gathered around him one of the largest congregations in Brooklyn.

FERRY ACCIDENTS.—A lady and gentleman severally precipitated themselves into the water last evening, on the New-York side of the Fulton Ferry. The name of the gentleman we did not as certain, but understood that he was a member of the press in Brooklyn. If so, we do not pity him in the least. Editors, of all persons, ought by this time to appreciate the impropriety of jumping after or leaving the boat before being made fast to the bridge. The unfortunate quill-driver escaped with the loss only of his hat and a pair of gold spectacles. [Advertiser.

BY THE SOUTHERN MAIL.

Mr. Hudson's Peace Proposition.

The Resolution presented in the House of Representatives on Monday, by Mr. HUDSON of Massachusetts, and mentioned in our Telegraphic Dispatch of yesterday, was in the following words:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be directed to inquire into the expediency of requesting the President of the United States to withdraw to the east bank of the Rio Grande our armies now in Mexico; and to propose to the Mexican Government forthwith a treaty of peace on the following basis, namely: That we relinquish all claims to indemnity for the expenses of the war, and that the boundary between the United States and Mexico shall be established at or near the desert between the Nueces and the Rio Grande; that Mexico shall be held to pay all just claims due to our citizens at the commencement of the war, and that a convention shall be entered into by the two nations to provide for the liquidation of these claims and the mode of payment.

This resolution, after considerable debate, was rejected by the following vote:

MAINE—Hiram Belcher—1.
NEW-HAMPSHIRE—James Wilson, Ames Tuck—2.
MASSACHUSETTS—Abbott, Adams, Ashmun, Grinnell, Hale, Hudson, King, Rockwell—8.
VERMONT—Collamer, Henry, Marsh—3.
CONNECTICUT—Dixon, Hubbard, Smith—3
RHODE ISLAND—Robert B. Cranston—1.
NEW-YORK—Conger, Hall, Kellogg, Marvin, Ramsey, Warren—6
PENNSYLVANIA—Blanchard, Brady, Dickey, McIlvaine, Strohm—5
VIRGINIA—John Minor Botts—1.
OHIO—Crowell, Evans, Fisher, Giddings, Root, Schenck, Vinton—7.
INDIANA—Caleb B. Smith, Richard W. Thompson—2.
NORTH CAROLINA—Nathaniel Boyden—1.
KENTUCKY—Aylett Buckner—1.
Total 41—all Whigs.

NAYS—Messrs. Green Adams, Barringer, Barrow, Bayly, Beale, Bedinger, Bingham, Birdseil, Black, Bowdon, Brodhead, William G. Brown, Charles Brown, Burt, Butler, Cabell, Calhoun, Chase, Beverly L. Clark, Cliffumson, Howell Cobb, Williamson R. W. Cobb, Cocke, Collins, Crozier, Cummins, Daniel, Dickinson, Dunnell, Duer, Garnett Duncan, Dunn, Edwards, Embree, Alexander Evans, Fagan, Farrelly, Featherston, Ficklin, Fries, French, Fulton, Gentry, George, Green, Willard P. Hall, Hammons, Jas. G. Hampton, Moses Hampton, Harmanson, Harris, Haskell, Henley, Hill, Hilliard, Isaac E. Holmes, Cabell, Cottman, Chase, Beverly L. Clark, Cliffumson, Jos. R. Ingersoll, Irvin, Jackson, Jenkins, A. Johnson, J. H. Johnson, R. W. Johnson, G. W. Jones, J. W. Jones, Kaufman, Kennon, Thomas Butler King, Lahm, La Sere, Lawrence, Leffler, Lison, Lincoln, Lumpkin, McClelland, McGiernand, McDowell, McLean, Mann, Meade, Miller, Morris, Morse, Nes, Newell, Parrott, Pennybacker, Phelps, Phillips, Preston, Putnam, Rhett, Reynolds, Richardson, Richey, Robinson, Rockhill, John A. Rockwell, St. John, Sawyer, Sheppard, Sherrill, Simpson, Sims, Stuart, Robert Smith, Stanton, Starkweather, Stephens, Andrew Stewart, Charles E. Stuart, Strong, Sylvester, Thibodeaux, Taylor, Thomas, Tompkins, James Thompson, Jacob Thompson, John B. Thompson, William Thompson, Tuck, Towns, Turner, Van Dyke, Venable, Wick, Williams, Woodward—137.

Vote of Thanks to Gen. Taylor—Mr. Ashmun's Amendment.

Our readers have already been informed by Telegraph that Mr. HOUSTON of Delaware, introduced into the House of Representatives on Monday, a resolution of thanks to Gen. Taylor and his men for their heroism at the battle of Buena Vista. Mr. HENLEY moved an amendment by adding the words "engaged as they were, in defending the rights and honor of the Nation," when Mr. ASHMUN moved to amend the amendment by adding the words "in a war unnecessarily and unconstitutionally begun by the President of the United States."

Mr. Ashmun's amendment was sustained by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. John Q. Adams, Ashmun, Barringer, Barrow, Belcher, Betts, Brady, Buckner, Canby, Cottman, Cocke, Collamer, Crozier, Cranston, Crowell, Crozier, Dickey, Dixon, Donnell, Duer, Daniel Duncan, Garnet Duncan, Dunn, Eckert, Edwards, Alex. Evans, Nathan Evans, Fisher, Fallon, Gayle, Gentry, Giddings, Gossin, Grinnell, Hale, Nathan K. Hall, James G. Hampton, Haskell, Henry, Hilliard, Hudson, Inge, Irvin, Jenkins, Jones, Thomas B. King, D. P. King, Lincoln, McIlvaine, Marsh, Marvin, Mullin, Nes, Newell, Preston, Putnam, Reynolds, Julius Rockwell, John A. Rockwell, Root, Ramsey, St. John, Schenck, Sheppard, Sherrill, Slingerland, Caleb B. Smith, Truman Smith, Stephens, Andrew Stewart, Strong, Sylvester, Thibodeaux, Taylor, Tompkins, James Thompson, John B. Thompson, Toombs, Tuck, Van Dyke, Vinton, Warren, Wilson—65.

NAYS—Messrs. Beale, Bedinger, Birdsall, Black, Bowdon, Brodhead, Wm. G. Brown, Charles Brown, Cathcart, Chase, Beverly L. Clark, Howell Cobb, Williamson, R. W. Cobb, Cummins, Daniel, Dickinson, Faran, Featherston, Ficklin, Fries, French, Green, Willard P. Hall, Moses Hampton, Harmanson, Harris, Henley, Bill, George S. Houston, Isaac E. Holmes, Cabell, Cottman, Chase, Beverly L. Clark, Cliffumson, Jos. R. Ingersoll, Jenkins, Andrew Johnson, Robert W. Johnson, George W. Jones, Kaufman, Kennon, Lahm, La Sere, Sidney Lawrence, Leffler, Lord, Lumpkin, McClelland, McClernand, McDowell, McLane, Mann, Meade, Miller, Morris, Morse, Murphy, Peaslee, Peck, Phelps, Pillsbury, Rhett, Richardson, Richey, Robinson, Rockhill, Sawyer, Sims, Smith, Robert Smith, Stanton, Starkweather, C. E. Stuart, Strong, Thomas, James Thompson, Jacob Thompson, Wm. Thompson, Thurston, Turner, Venable, Wick, Williams—81.

So the House of Representatives has officially declared the obvious truth that "*The War with Mexico was Unnecessarily and Unconstitutionally begun by the President of the United States.*"

Things in Philadelphia.

Correspondence of The Tribune.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 5, 1848.

The nomination and election of WILLIAM F. PACKER of Lycoming, to the Speakership of our lower House of Assembly is somewhat significant. He was Auditor General and Canal Commissioner under Mr. SHUNK's immediate predecessor and has always ranked in that fragment of the Loco-Foco party known as the Porter and Cameron clique. He was in the early part of the recent gubernatorial canvass a one-term man, and stoutly opposed Mr. Shunk's renomination and election. To secure his nomination for the Legislature it was rumored that he had given in pledges of fealty to the dominant powers and the transactions of to-day leave no doubt that he has detached himself from the conservative Pennsylvania portion of his party and returned to the Polk, Shunk, Brown Trade, Sub-Treasury radicals.

Of Mr. Packer's qualifications there can be but one opinion. He will make a prompt presiding officer, and few men are better acquainted with the requirements of the State. I only ask of him to recollect old Pennsylvania, and sometimes prefer her interests to the success of party.

The Whigs of the House have paid the high compliment to Gen. ANDREW BURN, Boyd of Chester County, a firm Whig and amiable gentleman, who is every way deserving this mark of respect. The clerks and subordinates will be established day after to-morrow, and I shall expect a hourly from the Harrisburgs and Harrisburg Unions on the fecundity of party prescription, because a Loco-Foco House of the Pennsylvania Assembly will do as a Whig House of Representatives in Congress have done—turn out their political opponents to make place for their friends in offices of trust. Mr. Robert Ritchie of Washington, the Postmaster McKinley, of the *Harrisburg Union*, and myself, must "seek out some desolate shane" to weep over our grief on this melancholy occasion—they because their friends will do so, and I because they unfortunately have the power to do it.

The following is the vote for Speaker:

Wm. F. Packer, of Lycoming, (Loco-Foco)	63 votes
George Ledley, of Chester, (Whig)	31 "
Scattering	2

The Senate met at 3 o'clock, and after the reading of new credentials, re-elected Hon. WILLIAM WILLIAMS. We know him well and appreciate him—but if any of your readers do not, let me tell them he is true a Whig as any who fought at Chad's Ford on the Brandywine during the Revolution, and that good old Chester County may be proud of her distinguished son.

The Governor's Message will be delivered to-morrow at noon. It will excite no interest unless, as some suppose, he should express an opinion in favor of Free Banking which is beginning to excite much attention in our State. The condition of our State Treasury I was able to give you last week, having been favored with a sight of the Auditor General's figures in advance of the presentation of his Report to the Legislature.

In the primary Ward and District Elections last evening for Delegates, the Dallas men drove the Buchananites all before them. There was much cabbaging, gouging and cheating between the factions as they usually employ against the Whigs. The whole cordon of Government pimps were active for Buchanan, and large numbers of "voters" for the nonce were imported from the adjacent counties. Some of the scenes were rich.

TUESDAY, Jan. 4—P. M.

There was rather more activity in the market this morning in Cotton. Small sales were made at 8¼ a 9¼ for Uplands and New-Orleans. Flour continues heavy—250 bbls were taken at $6 37½. More is offered at the same rate, but buyers want it at a lower figure. Corn—a lot of Yellow sold at 64 cts. Corn Meal is nominal at $3 25—. More activity was manifested in Groceries and Provisions. 200 hhds Orleans Sugars were sold at last quotations; 200 bbls N. O. Molasses at 27½ a 28 cts, on time; 50 casks of Hams in pickle at 7 cts; 300 kegs new Lard at 7½. Whisky, bbls 25, hhds 23. 1,200 pigs Lead at $4 40.

The sales of Stocks were—

First Board—3,000 Govt Loan 6s, '62, 99; 429 Girard Bk, 91; 7,000 Read Bds, 66¼; 1,850 Schyl Nav Loan 6s, '65, 44½.

☞ The PLUMBE NATIONAL DAGUERREIAN GALLERY, on the upper corner of Broadway and Murray-st. from experience we can recommend as the best place in the City to procure Daguerreotype pictures.

☞ Grand gala times to-day at the American Museum, with superb performances, both afternoon and evening.—See advertisement.

Business Notices.

☞ We are glad to see that one honest, skillful Physician, encouraged and aided by a few independent professional friends, has had the courage to break through the prejudices of his profession and give the public remedies that may save the industrious from the ruinous tax of fees, and the health of the community in general, from the nostrums of ignorant pretenders.

See advertisement for Dr. Marion's prescription list on the outside.

☞ DIAMOND-POINTED GOLD PENS, of every style and quality in the market, sold on the lowest terms wholesale and retail, by B. E. WATSON & Co. 45 William-st. one door below Wall-st. and J. Y. SAVAGE, 92 Fulton st. Their celebrated "Richelieu" Gold Pen is invariably warranted in every respect, and, together with the new style of case, is sold at 62 only. Gold Pens from $1 upward. Gold Pens repaired or exchanged.

THE PREMIUM GOLD PEN, $1 25—May be had at the establishment of J. W. GRATON & Co. 71 Cedar-st. together with some thirty different styles of Pens, consisting of Brown's, Hayden's, Spencer's, Bagley's, Congress, Henry, American, and others, all at prices lower than can be found at any other house in the trade. Gold Pens repaired.

CLARK, BROTHER & CO.'S SUPERIOR GOLD PENS.—These Pens, justly celebrated for their durability, smoothness of point and superior finish, are now fast coming into general use. Those who wish to get a really good article should call at their office, 53 John-st. corner of Nassau.

XXXth CONGRESS.....First Session.

By Telegraph to The Tribune.

SENATE.... WASHINGTON, Jan. 4, 1848.

Mr. CAMERON presented the proceedings of the War Meeting at Philadelphia.

Mr. BERRIEN introduced a bill to create the office of Surveyor General of Oregon, and to grant preemption rights to actual settlers. Read twice.

Mr. CLAY submitted a resolution, calling on the Secretary of War for any dispatches received from commanders of the army since the annual report. Adopted.

Several private bills, and bills concerning certain collection districts, were passed.

The Senate then proceed to the consideration of the resolutions of Mr. CALHOUN, who spoke at length in defence of the same. He stated the reasons which induced him to oppose the war from its commencement, and which were connected with views of high policy as well as with the errors of fact exhibited in its origin. At the last session he had suggested a defensive line as the only course which could save the country from tremendous evils. The war-President, however, had taken a different view and recommended a vigorous prosecution for the purpose of "conquering a peace."

Mr. C. next took a view of the difficulties that lay in the way of peace. We were recommended to erect a Government of the peaceable portion of the people and make a treaty with that Government. This would leave no permanent peace, nor could we make peace with the existing Government. It was too weak to command the confidence of the people, and he feared that unless we adopt the defensive line, we should be forced to acquiesce in the President's recommendation to carry on the war vigorously.

He argued at length against conquering or holding Mexico as a province or by annexation, and calculated that it would be necessary in either case to keep an army of forty thousand men in that country to preserve tranquility. He was not now prepared to designate a defensive line. He desired to know if the war should be prosecuted with vigor, and warned the friends of the Administration of the appalling dangers to our free institutions that most repose in that policy. He called on the other side of the Chamber to unite with him in endeavoring to put an end to the war. He would if supported move for a Select Committee, from which an efficient plan should be reported for carrying out his views.

On motion of Mr. SEVIER the resolutions were then laid on the table, to be taken up again after the bill to increase the army has been disposed of.

Mr. BERRIEN offered a resolution inquiring as to the expediency of authorizing the President to promote officers of the army immediately, in newly-raised regiments, without prejudice to their present commissions.

The Senate went into Executive session. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On motion of Mr. BOYD the resolution directing the renewal of the late contract for the transportation of the Great Southern Mail was postponed till to-morrow.

On motion of Mr. BROADHEAD, the House went into Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union on the President's annual message; Mr. J. R. INGERSOLL in the chair.

The resolutions of Mr. VINTON, referring several portions to appropriate Committees were read, when Mr. BROADHEAD offered his substitute, and stated his reasons.

Mr. GIDDINGS moved to amend the first of Mr. VINTON's resolutions so as to refer the Amistad Slave Case to a Select Committee, and made a speech on the proposed amendment.

Mr. GIDDINGS's proposition was rejected.

Mr. VINTON addressed the Committee in reply to Mr. BROADHEAD, and the Committee rose.

Mr. STANTON from the Naval Committee reported a bill appropriating one hundred and fifty thousand dollars to the Dry Dock at New-York. Read twice.

Mr. TRUMAN SMITH, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported a bill to provide for the ascertainment and satisfaction of claims for French spoliations. Read twice.

Mr. COCKE reported a Revolutionary Pensions bill, making further provision for the widows of officers and soldiers of the Revolution. Passed.

Mr. GOGGIN's resolution calling on the President to communicate any instructions relative to the return of SANTA ANNA to Mexico, was taken up. Motion was made to refer it to the Committee on Foreign Affairs. Negatived, 72 to 86.

Mr. McLANE of Maryland, moved to amend by adding—"If the information had not been previously furnished." Debate ensued between Messrs. ASHMUN, EVANS, McLANE, and others.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, moved to amend by including a call for information in regard to the return to Mexico of Gen. Paredes. Mr. THOMPSON's amendment was accepted by Mr. GOGGIN and the previous question was moved. It was sustained. The main question was then ordered, which the SPEAKER said would be on the amendment.

Mr. McLANE desired to modify it, which the Speaker decided to be in order.

Mr. TOOMBS appealed from the Speaker's decision. The decision was reversed, 57 to 115.

Mr. McLANE then withdrew his amendment, and the resolution as amended by Mr. THOMPSON, then passed, Ayes 115, Noes 15. Adjourned at 5 o'clock P. M.

Prices of Provisions, &c. in New-York.

WASHINGTON MARKET, Tuesday, Jan. 4.

The morning was pleasant with sunshine, a slight frost, and the atmosphere clear, cool and healthful. This market was, on the whole, well supplied.

[For LIVE roasting pigs, guinea fowls, turkeys, barn-door fowls, Pheasants, &c. the buyer will have to resort to the Fulton Market. None are kept alive at the Washington this season.]

APPLES—Per bbl, retail from 1½ to $3. Newtown Pippins $2 to $4. Winter Greenings 12s, 14s and $2. Spitzenbergs, $2 to $4.

The supply was larger than at the Fulton last Tuesday, and there were lower rates for good apples. We occasionally meet with apples, such as they are, as low as 5s or 6s a bbl, but it is useless to quote bad fruit. Lady Apples are worth $3 to $15 a bbl, or $1 to $2, by retail, per peck.

BEEF—Butchers' retail prices, per lb, 6d to 10d; Sirloin and Ribs is; Corned Beef, Rumps 5d to 10d; Plates 5d; Chuck, Hits 6d; Briskets 4½ cts. Hind-quarters 5 to 6½ c. Fore-quarters 7 to 7½ cts

We saw good country Beef selling at 6½ cts in Hind-quarters; and 5½ cts for Fore-quarters. Some butchers sold a little lower than the above retail scale.

BUCKWHEAT—Extra new hulled, small bags 69 cts.

BEETS—Bushel, 1s 6d to 4s

BUTTER—Retail, just fresh, in rolls, per lb, 25 cts; Table, fresh, 18 to 20 cts; Cooking, firkin, 14 to 16 cts.

The supply is seemingly abundant.

BUTTERNUTS—Bushel 5s, bbl $2. Scarcely any in market.

CABBAGES are plentiful at $6 to $8 per 100 heads, good quality and size. Red, for pickling, &c. fetch 6s to 8s per dozen heads.

CELERY—Bunch 6d. doz 3s to 4s.

CARROTS—Bushel 4s to 5s.

CHEESE—American, in quantities, lb 7 to 8 cts; retail, 8d to 10d; English Dairy [imitation] 1s.

CHESTNUTS—Bushel $3; bbl $6 50 to $8.

CRANBERRIES—Bushel 16s to $3; bbl $6 50 to $8; retail, peck 3s to 6s, qt 8d to 12d.

DUCKS—By the couple 75c to $1.

EGGS—Retail, fresh, 7 for 1s, or in quantities, 8 for 1s; preserved, 6 for 1s, or in quantities, 9 for 1s.

FISH—Retail, by the lb. Pickerel 1s; Striped Bass, or Rock Fish 1s; Black Fish 8 cts; Frost Fish 6 cts; Eels 8 cts; Cod 4 cts; Flounders 6 cts.

Mackerel, salted, best No. 1, half bbl $5; Salmon, salted, lb 10 cts.

SHELL FISH—Retail price per 100, viz: Oysters, Saddle-Rocks, $1 50 to $4; East River, 50 cts to $1; York River, 3s to $1. Clams, soft, 2s to 4s per 100; Little Neck Bay Clams $1 to $2 per 100.

This, like the Catharine and Fulton, is a good market for Fish, and seemingly well supplied with every kind in season.

GAME—Retail—Canvas Back Ducks 16s to 20s a pair; Brant 6s to 12s a pair; Black Ducks 1s to 6s a pair; Widgeon 3s to 6s a pair; Quail 12s a doz; Partridges 5s to 7s a pair.

Brant is scarce—very. Quails and Partridges are out of season, we believe, after to-day, and cannot be sold under the statute. There were but few in market. Game is a shade lower. Wild Turkeys fetch $1 50 to $3 each.

GEESE—Retail 6s, 8s to 12s a pair; 1b 6 to 8½ cts.

HARES—Pair 2s to 3s.

HICKORY NUTS—$3 to $6 a bbl; 15c to 16c a bush by retail. The half peck 2s to 3s according to quality.

LARD—New, by the firkin 10½ to 11 cts per lb; retail 1s. We saw some beautiful parcels at these rates. The lard are very fine.

MUTTON—From the country is worth 3, 4, and up to 5 cts per lb by the sheep or saddle. The best in market, and there was no scarcity, is 5 cts, taking the whole sheep.

ONIONS—Red and yellow 6s and white 10s to 12s per bushel.

PARSNIPS—Bushel 4s.

PICKLES—Cucumbers 3s, 4s, 5s or 6s per 100; Onions, Beans, and Red Cabbage, 1s qt; Sour Krout 6d qt; Mangoes each 4 to 5 cts.

PIGEONS—Doz. $2. Live do 3s a pair; Carrier $2 to $5 pair; Rough neck d, best, $2 to $3; dead, 12s, doz.

POULTRY—Retail—Fat Capons, 12s to 20s, pair; or 7d to 10d per lb; Chickens 4s to 6s per pair, or 6½ to 9 cts per lb; other barn-door Fowls 7 to 10 cts per lb.

Good Chickens are scarce to-day. Poultry of all kinds, fat Capons excepted, is cheaper, now that the holidays are over. Turkeys are scarce. But will be received in great plenty from Pennsylvania in about a fortnight. We saw two fine parcels. One dealer bought some at 1s per lb. Guinea Fowls brings 4s to 5s per pair.

[See also Game, Geese, Turkeys, Ducks, &c.]

PORK—6 to 6 cents for whole hogs, large, fat, 5½ to 5¾ cts per lb; small hogs, whole, 6½ to 6¾ cts per lb; Butchers' retail, lb, 10 cts; Bacon Hams, new, lb, 11d to 1s; Pork averages 10 cts.

There was a good deal Beef and Pork in market, but the prices were not materially affected.

POTATOES—are higher. The retail prices are, Carters, bri, $3, or 10s bushel; Kidneys same price; Mercers 12s to quantities, or 7s to 8s per bushel.

SWEET POTATOES—Delawares $3 50 bri.

RABBITS—Pair 25 cts.

TURKEYS—Pair 10s to 12s; lb 8 cts to 9 cts. They vary in weight from 3 to 22 lb.

TURNIPS—Swedish and White, bush, 2s 6d to 3s; Yellow 3s.

VENISON—By the sadd's, 10 to 15 cts lb; in steaks, lb, 18 cts. More in market than last Tuesday.

WALNUTS—Bush 4s to 5s; bbls 15s.

Business Notices.

SOME THINGS CAN BE DONE AS WELL AS OTHERS.

☞ There was a time when men did not believe that the earth was round. There was a time when the inventor of loco-foco matches would have been bur