# NEW-YORK DAILY TRIBUNE.

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### Mr. Clay and the Presidency.

A correspondent of the *Maysville* (Ky.) *Herald* notices the following remark of the Washington correspondent of the *Louisville Courier*:

"It is positively understood that Mr. CLAY will not consent to the withdrawal of his name from before the public, as a candidate for the Presidency. He is, however, in favor of a National Convention, for the purpose of making nominations."

The Maysville correspondent contends that this statement does Mr. CLAY great injustice, and to prove this position, submits the following quotation from a letter of Mr. CLAY to a friend:

"I have constantly remained passive and neutral upon the subject, and up to this moment have not made up my mind whether I would accept or decline a nomination if it were tendered to me. I reserve my decision for the last suitable moment, and shall be guided by all the circumstances of the case, and especially by my sense of duty, if it should ever become necessary for me to come to any determination on the subject.

FREE COMPETITION IN TELEGRAPHING!—We are truly happy to be enabled to state, that a bill is before a committee of the New-York Legislature having for its object equal encouragement and protection to all persons who may lawfully unite and embark their means in the new business of telegraphing. The bill interferes with no man's patent, but carries out the intention of the U. S. patent laws of 1836, to grant equal protection to all discoverers and inventors, leaving it to the federal courts, as in all other cases of patents, to protect the rights of parties from invasion.

Against this just measure, we find Mr. F. O. J. Smith, up at Albany protesting! and Mr. Amos Kendall annoying Kentucky with his twaddle, through the *Louisville Journal*. Age and avarice go together, and here we have the sickening spectacle of a couple of the pharisees of Democracy, one an Ex-M. C. the other an Ex-Postmaster General, holding on to a monopoly most injurious to the press and the public, with the grip of a dying miser to his money-bags. The man whom Henry Clay's kindness warmed into political life, and who turned round to sting his unsuspecting benefactor, is consistent in old age, ever true to the mammon which influenced his early apostacy.

Mr. Brooks deserves credit for the service he is doing the country in this matter. We perceive that the bill granting equal rights to all telegraphers passed 'like a flash' through the House of Assembly in Tennessee. A similar measure cannot but find favor with the present enlightened Legislature of this commercial State.

PENNSYLVANIA.—The Whigs of the 1st Congressional District of Pennsylvania have appointed JOHN LINDSAY as the representative in the National Convention. Peter Glasgow, substitute.

A WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING.—Mr. DOWNS, the new United States Senator from Louisiana, professes to be a Democrat of the true Jeffersonian school; he never loses an opportunity of declaring his admiration of the remarkable man to whom Louisiana owed much, as her Legislature acknowledged at the time when it voted $10,000, as a gift to his impoverished descendants. Mr. Jefferson, in 1801, recommended more liberal laws of naturalization, and that the right hand of fellowship should be given to the lover of liberty from every land, as our brother and equal. He selected Albert Gallatin, who, in 1793, was a Professor in Harvard College, and thereafter in Independence Hall, the leader of the bold Democracy in Congress, as Secretary of the Treasury. Every Democrat in Senate sanctioned the appointment. For a quarter of a century did Mr. Gallatin continue to fulfil, alternately, the duties of cabinet adviser, negotiator and minister to foreign courts; in 1824 he was the *Democratic* candidate for Vice-President; and now, when over 80 years of age, nearly three score and ten of which have been passed in the service of the country of his early choice, *Jeffersonian Democrat* of yesterday arises in the Senate of the United States, and thus rebukes him: Mr. DOWNS, alluding to Mr. Gallatin's remarks on the war with Mexico, said that

"He could hear such language *from one born on the soil*, but he could not listen to such language from a native of Switzerland without indignation. He would have, in regard to our intercourse with foreign nations, American hearts, American feelings, American arms. Nothing but American! *Those born abroad would not divest themselves of their foreign feelings.* When he saw a foreigner *yoking*—(that was the word he used,)—poking his opinions on Americans born on the soil, he felt his blood boil with indignation—(Here the Senator stamped his foot upon the floor so hard that he almost fell over the desk behind him.)"

There are some three millions of persons among us who have come to the United States since the venerable Gallatin left Geneva for the land of Franklin. They hold, *comparatively speaking*, few public offices; are rarely seen in Congress; their names seldom appear in the Army List or the Blue Book; they have been required to *register* themselves as abjuring the Governments of their native country forever, although the common or municipal law of England, including, of course, its perpetual allegiance doctrines, is continued as the rule in our State and Federal Courts; the people are not permitted to choose any of them for the highest United States civil offices. They are not less true to the country than others. Why should they be thus gratuitously insulted through Mr. G. who is, perhaps, the oldest of their class? Why should the Executive Council Room of the Union, the U. S. Senate Chamber, be chosen as the place where *Jeffersonian* (!) Democrats may hold them up to contempt? Although not endowed with equal rights, in all cases, may not even the oldest and most trusted of their number be permitted to state the results of his experience, in the most decorous language, without subjecting every citizen by choice to contumely and reproach?

☞ A Washington correspondent of a morning paper says:

"It is rumored of late that the Administration, afraid of General Cass's popularity, has withdrawn its protecting hand from him, and will leave the "distinguished Senator" henceforth to fight the grand Presidential battle as best he may, and according to his own taste."

"THE ANGLO-SAXON."—This able advocate of the Writing and Printing Reformation has reached nearly the close of its first volume. It is a neatly printed sheet—calculated to do good in the way intended. The Editors and Publishers—Andrews & Boyle—are already well-known as highly successful Phonographic instructors. The 'Saxon' is printed in the Phonetic character—differing little, however, from our ordinary types. It merits at least a careful examination. (Published at 126 Fulton-st. Sun Buildings.)

THE ADAMS HOUSE, BOSTON.—We are glad to learn that this favorite hotel is still in active operation, extending its most grateful hospitalities to the way-worn traveler and comfort-loving resident, with the same liberality and success as heretofore. From experience we can say, that a more quiet, orderly, convenient and satisfactory public house cannot easily be found anywhere.

THE VICE-PRESIDENCY.—At the primary meetings of the Whigs of this State, the names of several distinguished gentlemen of the North have been suggested in connexion with this office. Among others, those of Abbott Lawrence, Speaker Winthrop, Mr. Fillmore, and Mr. John M. Clayton. The majority of opinion seems to incline to a *New England* man—there being an old and deep-rooted feeling of attachment on the part of Virginians, toward Massachusetts particularly, which has its date in the times that tried men's souls.

[Richmond Whig.

RELIEF OF MISSISSIPPI VOLUNTEERS.—The bill appropriating $5,000 for the benefit of the Mississippi Volunteers now in the field, has been amended in the Senate of that State, so as to read $15,000, and thus it has passed by a vote of three to one.

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### From the Frontier.

A St. Louis correspondent of the *Pittsburgh Gazette* has the following particulars:

A messenger has arrived from Fort Mann, with news from that place, dates to the 20th of January—ten days later than the advices received on Saturday.

It is said that the Mexicans and Camanche Indians are gathering in the South in great force, about 250 miles from Fort Bent, and were preparing for an attack upon that fort.

Col. Gilpin was making every preparation not to receive them, but to march against them and attack them in their rendezvous.

The means at Col. Gilpin's command were very limited, but he hoped to be able to march by the middle of February. The greatest difficulty was experienced at the fort in obeying the orders of Col. Gilpin. His horses are all dead, and of 800 cattle, only 70 now remain, and the wolves are daily lessening this number.

An attempt was made at Fort Mann to send stores to Col. Gilpin, but with little success. A detachment of troops, Lieut. O'Harra, which was ordered to escort a sutler's train, deserted to a man. A court martial had been ordered, but the result had not been ascertained.

### Later from Texas.

The *N. O. Picayune* has intelligence from TEXAS to the 28th ult. by the steamer Palmetto.

The Senate had passed a bill to provide for a settlement of the accounts of Commodore Moore, and a joint resolution for the relief of persons who furnished supplies for the late Navy of Texas.

The Indians have been committing depredations not far from Seguin. The tribe unknown. On the 13th ult. a man was killed by them at Plum Creek, near which they are supposed still to remain.

The *News* notices the receipt of some sugar from the parish of Calcasieu, and says that it has been shipped to Galveston instead of New Orleans, because the charges are lighter, the prices are generally higher, and goods in small quantities may be purchased lower. In speaking of the sugar crop of Texas, the same paper has this paragraph:

"This crop has been cut short, according to the best information we can get, about *one-fourth* by the early frost—the average per acre this year being about 1,500 lbs. A portion of our crop will be consumed in the country. The total receipts in this port will probably be between two thousand and three thousand hogsheads."

### Demarara.

The *Express* publishes a letter from Demarara, dated Jan. 11, which describes the financial condition of that Province as critical in the extreme.—Estates are, one after another, being abandoned or passing from the hands of their proprietors, at execution sale, for a few hundred dollars. Merchant after merchant is failing, and particularly those immediately connected with the Colony. The banks have ceased to discount drafts, even with bill of lading attached, and many planters have, in consequence, been unable to procure money to pay wages, and even the more improvident of the working classes are beginning, for the first time, to feel the limitation of credit.

The cause of this is the *Free Trade* system, which actually occasions the cost of producing sugar to be greater than the price for which it sells.

### New Publications.

☞ "THE KNICKERBOCKER" for February, is on our table. From our hurried examination of its contents, we see that "Old Knick" shows no disposition to be distanced in the race, by any of his younger competitors. The leading article is a translation by Hon. H. W. ELLSWORTH, of a very interesting Essay of M. Xavier Marmier, on the Sagas of the Northmen. The remaining contributions are varied in character and spirited in style, while in (or on) his Editor's Table, Mr. CLARK has served up an abundant fare, to suit every variety of taste.

☞ "THE LITERARY WORLD," published by Osgood and Co. and edited by C. F. HOFFMAN, Esq. has commenced the second year of its existence with renewed vitality. It has already gained a strong hold on the public favor, which is well merited by the manly and impartial tone of its criticism. The leading article in the present number is a Review of Curtis's Law of Copyright, which will interest the 5831 authors, who, according to a recent computation, are writing for the glory of America.

One of the most striking things in the number is the following spirited poem, contributed by a gentleman of St. Louis, under the head of "Picturesque Ballads of California." It purports to be taken from the manuscripts of a deceased Western naturalist who spent many years on the Pacific coast.

### EL CANALO.*

Now saddle *el canalo!*—the freshening wind of morn
Down in the flowery vega, is stirring through the corn;
The thin smoke of the ranches grows red with coming day,
And the steed's impatient stamping is eager for the way!
My glossy-limbed canalo, thy neck is curved in pride,
Thy slender ears pricked forward, thy nostril straining wide;
And as thy quick neigh greets me, and I catch thee by the mane,
I'm off with the winds of morning—the chieftain of the plain!
I feel the swift air whirring, and see along our track,
From the flinty-paved sierra, the sparkes go streaming back;
And I clutch my rifle closer, as we sweep the dark defile,
Where the red guerrilla watches for many a lonely mile!
They reach not el canalo; with the swiftness of a dream,
We've passed the bleak Nevada, and the Gila's icy stream
But where, on awe-ping gallop, my bullet backward sped;
The keen-eyed mountain vultures will circle o'er the dead!
On! on, my brave canalo! we've dashed the sand and snow
From peaks upholding heaven, from deserts far below—
We've thundered through the forest, while the crackling branches sang,
And trooping elks, affrighted, from lair and covert sprang!
We've swam the swollen torrent—we've distanced in the race
The baying wolves of Pinos, that panted with the chase;
And still thy mane streams backward, at every thrilling bound,
And still thy measured hoof-stroke beats with its morning sound!
The seaward winds are wailing through Santa Barbara's pines,
And like a sheathless sabre, the far Pacific shines;
Hold to thy speed, my arrow! at nightfall thou shalt have
Thy hot and smoking haunches beneath his silver wave!
My head upon thy shoulder, along the sloping sand
We'll sleep as trusty brothe, from out the mountain land,
And when I wake, canalo, to hear thy fiery neigh,
We'll scour the sparkling vega, in the morning cool and gray!

* *El canalo*, or *the cinnamon-colored*, is the name given to the choicest breed of the wild Californian horse. The swiftness and endurance of one of these animals is perfectly wonderful; and between him and his rider, there exists the same constant friendship, which characterizes the Arab and his steed.

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.—We have received from Mr. Currier, Tract Buildings, corner of Nassau and Spruce-sts. a copy of Durand's well-known Engraving of Trumbull's great Painting of "The Declaration of Independence." The Engraving was published in 1820, and this is one of the earliest impressions, a few copies of which were retained by Mr. Trumbull, and purchased by Mr. C. from one of the heirs of the estate. It is a picture which any American or any lover of Liberty might well be proud of. Here may be seen the almost breathing countenances of that illustrious band who dared be true to the sacred cause of Human Rights, in contemptuous defiance of the halters with which they were menaced by the most powerful and haughty nation of the earth. It was an occasion calculated to develop the stuff men are made of. They were equal to the crisis and 'their works do follow them.'

Most prominent in the picture are the outlaw President, JOHN HANCOCK, and the Committee who are in the act of presenting, through Mr. Jefferson, that document which as electrified and astonished the civilized world. On the right of Mr. Jefferson stands Adams, the man of impatient and fiery eloquence, and on his left we observe the calm and philosophical face of the lightning-tamer—philosophical even in his waggeries. Who but Franklin would have said, on such an occasion, 'Gentlemen, having signed this document, we must now hang together or we shall hang separately?'

Mr. Currier has about a dozen copies of this fine engraving still on hand.

DETECTION OF A POST-OFFICE ROBBER.—A number of firms in Boston have for some tim past been robbed of sums of money remitted to them through the Post-Office. Not long since a trader in Hanover sent $400 in a letter to Messrs. Waldo, Noyes & Co. which was not received. Among the bills was a $50 note on a Georgia Bank, and notice of this was given to the brokers of the city in case the bill should be offered for change.

On Wednesday, a young man named Williams, who turned out to be a porter in the employ of Waldo, Noyes & Co. offered the bill to a broker in Exchange-st. He attempted to fabricate a story of his having found it in the street, but was taken into custody and committed in default of $1,000 bail.

NUMBERS AND ENTHUSIASM.—The editor of the Queen City says the cheers for CLAY at the Taylor meeting were more numerous and enthusiastic than those for Taylor. They were given after the adjournment of the meeting and we did not hear them. Whatever may have been the relative force and fervor of the shouters at that assemblage, we have not a particle of doubt that the friends of either CLAY or CORWIN in Cincinnati, are far more numerous and enthusiastic than those of Taylor, though we acknowledge that the latter has many warm and highly respectable friends here. [Cincinnati Atlas.

### Mr. Niles on the Mexican War.

The *Courier & Enquirer* has the following report of the Speech of Mr. Senator NILES, of Connecticut, delivered in the U. S. Senate on Wednesday 9th inst. The question under consideration was the Ten Regiments bill:

Mr. NILES said—Mr. President, the question at present under discussion is properly divided into parts. The first, as regards the raising additional troops, and the main question as regards the present position of the United States as regards Mexico. This is a question of such very great interest, I can make no apology for pressing its consideration still farther on Congress. Sir, this is a question the issue of which will decide whether we are to have peace or war. The question might assume a still higher appearance. We might become involved with Mexico to such an extent that we should be unable to dissolve that connection, no matter however disposed this country might be to do so, and it would eventually lead to the complete overthrow of the complicated but independent system of Government under which, for nearly half a century, we have enjoyed more blessings and prosperity than any people under the sun.

Mr. President, I am one of those who have had some agency in bringing this country into its present position, having voted for all the measures yet brought before this Senate for the prosecution of the war. I have, I confess, voted with some degree of hesitation, because I have some doubt as to our constitutional course, and I had some repugnance in opening that whole country to the dangers of Slavery. Yet with all these misgivings on my mind I voted for all the measures brought forward. I stand, therefore, before the country as one who has assisted in bringing it to the present posture of affairs, but I do not shrink from the responsibility.

The difficulties and dangers attending our position arise in no small degree because they are remote. In my view of the case they are serious, and their not being immediate presents no less a subject for apprehension. Our commerce and trade during the past year, has enjoyed a degree of prosperity perhaps unparalleled in our history.—Well, Sir, this state of affairs cannot last long. We have, as yet, not taxed the people for the support of our army, but do gentlemen suppose that we can assume the responsibilities of a foreign, or any war, and throw the cost altogether upon posterity. No, Sir, such a state of things would not be tolerated for a moment; we are about feeling the pressure now and it will increase.

We have exalted our military character in the eyes of the world. It is not an ephemeral feeling. I rejoice at all this; but we are not to forget that although the people have not yet felt the results of the war. We are not to forget that it has not been carried on without the usual concomitants which have fallen on bleeding and broken hearts. And gentlemen talk of the war being to go on without looking at these claims—they prefer to go on without a thought as to the sacrifice of these families who are left desolate. They talk of making Mexico pay the expenses. How are you to do it? Will you go to the Register of the Treasury and ask him the expenses? Sir, the expenses are not to be kept in a day-book. Who can estimate the expenses of the value of the lives which have been sacrificed in this contest? Who can estimate the value of the lives of such men as Butler, as Ringgold, and as Ridgely? We see in the papers some of the solemn fruits of the war—of every war—a list of 25 gallant young men who have given up their lives, and their bodies have just been given upto their friends.

Now, Mr. President, let me say a word, Sir, on the subject of the difficulties we have got to contend with in our intercourse with Mexico. How is it that we find ourselves, often the most brilliant victors, as far as ever from the great objects we have in view? There is a reason—it is simple, and lies within a small compass; and so far as it is concerned, it could probably be obtained in a small time, within a month. The difficulties exist in the character and feelings of the Mexican Government in part, and in part in public feeling here.

We all know that Mexico is in almost a state of disorganization, and the people possess a most inveterate hatred of us. Other nations having redress to seek with her have not found it necessary to drive her to the extremity we have, but with a single blow have brought her to terms.

No doubt prejudices have been excited against us by our transactions in Texas, and they think we have a facility of duplicity there; and they view this war as a war not to conquer peace, but to despoil them of their country. Have we not given them good cause for this feeling? We are told that everything which takes place here is known there. They see one party charged as pursuing this war as a pretext for despoiling her of her territory. They will also now learn from this Chamber that all our professions of peace are hypocrisy—that we only want an excuse for commencing the war, and then declare that necessity drove us to absorb Mexico.

It will not do for me to say that you, Mr. President, are the only obstacle to our making peace. There is nothing more true than that any war will be met with opposition by party. I will respectfully submit to my friends on the other side, if they have not gone a little too far—if they have not said too much in order to make out the country in the wrong. I have great doubts but what that party will soon come into power. How will they settle it? They will, I suppose, demand some indemnity—some redress for the wrongs which even they agree Mexico has inflicted upon us.

Why, Sir, what will the Mexicans reply—why Sir, will they not reply that you have for two years been contending that this war was unjust and unnatural? Will they not go farther and say that you have demonstrated that the Nueces is the boundary? I submit these considerations respectfully to the consideration of these gentlemen, for if the country should unfortunately fall into their hands, I should like them to be able, without fresh difficulty, to settle the matter.

There have been faults on the other side. Why, Sir, while this is the view presented by one part of the people of the United States, what do they find on our side of the question? Why, Sir, we were told we were not to be seeking more than the avowed object of the war. Discussing questions about the expediency of the war and the absorption of Mexico, it is hardly deemed a subject of sufficient consequence, the question of right. It is asserted that if we find it our interest to take Mexico, why, Sir, we'll have it, and this question is so put by many in high places. It is admitted that Mexico is small, but it is urged that our manifest destiny as it is called, our Anglo-Saxon blood, will urge us on to cover all the Southern continent.

I intend to make a few remarks to show that, in my opinion, the war can be brought to a speedy close, but before doing so, I wish to say a few words upon the assertion of my friend from Tennessee, as regards the intention of our Government and the great party in this country who sustain that Government. The Hon. Senator has stated that the President wishes to conquer and subjugate all Mexico—that the statement that the President wishes to carry on the war in order to bring about an honorable peace is merely a cloak to hide his designs—that he would only accept such a peace as would give us power in Mexico for peace.

I think the gentleman went too far. I think he has no cause for saying such a thing—but I don't mean to say it was entirely groundless. But I do say it was assuming too much. At a former period, when he was one of us, we were more respectable—we had no such sitter and sitter moralizing views as he asserts we now have. These, I admit, continued Mr. Niles, are abstract principles. I will now come to the consideration of the policy which ought to be adopted in our connection with it—that is a practical question. There is no use in discussing what is passed. What is done, is done, and no good can arise from its being raked up. The war has been prosecuted with success, but as yet no results have ensued. We have not, as I believe, and I hope, we have not, on both sides of this Chamber, put aside for a moment the dirty trammels of party and consider the welfare of their country in its present dangerous position.

I will review very briefly the plans proposed for the continuance of the war and the bringing about peace. In regard to the first proposition, of retiring, I think it would be dishonorable and impolitic, unless they will to give up all claims and trust the settlement of such a people. I prefer to the proposition of the Secretary of War. I think it would be substantially the same as the subjugation of Mexico. The next is the proposition of a line, and the Sierra Madre is spoken of. This is a military question altogether, and I will not discuss it. The honorable gentleman from Virginia, however, looks upon a line in a sort of politicomilitary point of view. Suppose we take possession of more than half of the Mexican territory; and the proposition of taking it with a view of keeping it would be nothing more nor less than the dismemberment of Mexico, and would embrace all the objections urged against the occupancy of the whole.

Here we have the more sweeping proposition of the subjugation of the whole of Mexico, and that I class with the second proposition.

My object is to bring this controversy to a close. I believe it can be brought about, and that within a very reasonable time, and that, too, before the June rose should blossom. I consider the war now properly at an end. We are not now in a state of war, but of military occupation. It is not a state of war for the best reasons in the world—we have destroyed all the elements. Such a position, if we pursue a feeling of this kind, may exist for fifty years.

How can we bring this war to a close? I believe it is the duty of this country, and of the Senate, to look to this matter; and I believe if it is looked to in the right way, it would lead to peace—and also to a just amount of indemnity.

I would maintain our military possession in Mexico with a view to the bringing about a negotiation. I should vote for this bill because it may add to the chances of bringing about such a thing. We must look to the future and a military occupation of the territory as a means of bringing about a peace. Everything proves the unfriendly feelings of the Mexicans against us, but still there is a feeling toward peace, not from any feeling toward us, but for the blessings it would bring about. The present Government is the most favorable that can be found in Mexico. It is formed from the moderate party. It is the duty of the Government to make one more effort to make a treaty and to do so while our forces are there. It is by no means certain that any treaty with the constituted authorities will be worth more than the parchment it will be written on; but such a treaty would be an honorable way of getting peace.

But, Mr. President, if this plan still fail, what is then to be done, Sir. Shall we continue the military occupation—shall we take the matter into our own hands and control our destinies? Shall we take measures to take their course? I hold it a solemn duty the Government owes to itself and to the country, to take this matter into their own hands and put an end to the war, and that they could do so without losing an iota of our national honor. I hold that this is already done to our hands. I do not believe in expending our indemnity as the war increases.

We have declared that the Rio Grande is the boundary of Texas, and that California and New Mexico are more than sufficient indemnity. Well, Sir, we have got all this. It is in our hands, and the President tells us we are not to give it up. Well, Sir, why do we continue the war? In order to compel Mexico to give us a release which is worth nothing. Texas did not get such a release, and yet she stood pretty well with the world; we have got, as the President said, more than sufficient indemnity, and we are ready, when Mexico is ready, to pay her over the cash due her.

What can be the objection to this course unless a mere point of honor, which has no weight. No, Sir, we would raise our character in the page of history by our magnanimity. This would end the war, because it would end hostilities. California this day will defend itself without any assistance from our army. Notwithstanding our many years of intercourse, is still hostile to us, and this shows what we may expect if we attempt altogether to subjugate the whole of Mexico. Pursue such a course and we can at once reduce our army to 15,000 men.

The whole commerce of Mexico is hardly worth talking about. Mr. President, Why this very proposition which the President himself proposes and recommends, if we fail to obtain a treaty? He says if we fail in getting a treaty, we must occupy the country, and take the measure of indemnity into our own hands. Well, Sir, it appears this is a mere question of time, and shall we risk so much, merely to be forced at length to come back to where we now are.

The first proposition is the military occupation of Mexico, and the extension of our boundary. And the second is the total subjugation of all Mexico.

Neither of these courses is free from insuperable objections. There can be no war now but a war against the people of Mexico, and I do not think it is compatible with the dignity of the American nation to make war against non-combatants—against the men and the women of Mexico—notwithstanding that some declaimers have represented the women as having very rough chucks. Napoleon said he would subdue Spain, but how did it end?—by the overthrow of his power there, and finally to his complete subjugation.

Are we to make Mexico our India? We should want our Warren Hastings to carry on such a course. It could perhaps be brought about in twenty years, but in that time peace would be forgotten.

The continuance of the war must lead to the annihilation of Mexico. I have been astonished at the levity with which this subject has been discussed. It is spoken of as a matter of no consequence, this annexation of a country of 1,000,000 square miles and a population of some 7,000,000. I have been amazed, Sir, I have thought that men who could talk lightly of such matters must have forgotten their duty. Our country is our population with its happy organization—that system of discipline and training which gives them this form and bearing—and will you throw into this population a mass of degraded beings such as Mexicans? Sir, it is all that we can do to keep our own in the place—in morals. Such a union as that would not produce a slow and gradual dissolution. No, Sir, we could not survive the shock five years. What is our Government composed of but the elements of our State Governments, and is it not preposterous to suppose you can introduce such a population as Mexico contains, and continue pure constitutions? You talk of extending the benefits of such institutions, and this only Government which could exist in that form would be the arbitrary and oppressive system of old Spain, and govern the people by a Viceroy and a standing army. We could exercise no power there without a force probably as large in amount as is now required to overrun it. You must have laws there and what laws would you have—those of this country or of Spain? I must again refer to the history of the English in India. They provided no laws, but sent out Judges to administer law as they saw fit. What was the result? We are told by historians that flagrant and unjust as had been the government of Hastings, the law as administered by the English Judge—was found to be ten times worse.

If you take our laws there, what will you do with it? What do they know of the latent corpus, &c. &c.? and they would consider it a high-handed, arbitrary power.

I know not what the views of the President are, farther than those he has expressed. We have no right to speak for him, for he has spoken for himself. On the Oregon question, I remember how honorable gentlemen stated his views, but the end proved they knew nothing of them.

Mr. NILES then proceeded to show by extracts from Mr. Madison's Messages, that the Democratic party were always opposed to war, and he drew the inference that all other means must have failed in the present war before it was resorted to. He also read several passages of extracts from the Messages of Washington, Adams, Jefferson and Monroe, pointing out that peace was the best security for the harmony and prosperity of this Union.

It is said by some that we are bound to extend the area of our freedom. I would like to be informed by those who are better read in history than I am, what civilization has been introduced successfully into any country by force—Not Mexico a case in point—has she not been conquered once already by a factious people? Is she not civilized in the world, and what has been the result? In Roman history we do not find she left any vestiges of civilization; on the contrary, Greece had the high honor of civilizing her conquerors. In the end she was overrun and conquered herself by these barbarous power—and this was the result of her attempt to spread civilization.

It has been said as an argument for our holding possession of it, that otherwise she may fall into the hands of some European power. Are we then to hold on forever for fear of contingency, which may never occur, and if it did, we would always be prepared for. A monarchy is the only mode of Government suited for the Mexican people—and we should encourage it as the only means by which she will ever be of any value to us as a commercial power.

What occasion have we for security from Mexico? A great nation—one of the most powerful in the world, who has just conquered and overrun Mexico, is to demand security for fear she would turn round and conquer them in turn. Well, Sir, I for one am not much afraid of such an event. We are told that we are to carry our arms and our institutions into Mexico; and we are told we need no security." He could not have been aware of the origin of the word. It was this word "security for the future," which was used by Pitt as an excuse for the war which he plunged his country in, and which lasted for nearly twenty years. What security did he get? Ask the workingmen of Birmingham and Sheffield, who are taxed 50 per cent on their hard earnings. This is all the security for the future England ever received, and is that the security we desire.

The cry of destiny has no limits. Where would it end—not at the sands of Panama—it would extend to the Sandwich Islands and so forth. It destroys all landmarks and leads to every species of absurdity. I am not opposed to the acquisition of territory peacefully, but still I do not believe it would be wise to spread ourselves all over this continent, even among homogeneous people. A free Government is one founded on moral and not the physical principles. An undue extent of territory instead of being an element of strength is an agent of weakness. Were we to take possession of Mexico, would it be an element of strength to us in a case of war? Liberty is the agent of our greatness, and upon the conformity of our institutions let us look to the true element of our greatness.

I say again, as I have said before, that there is now no real difficulty in the settlement of peace, but whether we can say as much a year hence, is known alone to the Divine Author of all things. This is probably the last time I will have an opportunity of raising my voice in this place, but I trust that my last aspiration will be for the welfare and prosperity of my country, and I hope she may long continue to cherish peace by promoting justice.

## *By Telegraph to The Tribune.*

## NEW-YORK LEGISLATURE.

MORNING REPORT.

SENATE....ALBANY, Feb. 11—1 P. M.

The general Gas Company bill was ordered to a third reading.

Mr. JOHNSON is now making a report on the Anti-Rent resolution.

The nominations for Harbor-masters will be sent in to-day.

ASSEMBLY.

Mr. SCHERMERHORN reported favorably on the bill to amend the charter of the New-York Guardian Insurance Co.

The bill to provide for the appointment of Commissioners of Deeds in cities by Common Council, was passed.

Mr. CAMPBELL gave notice of a bill to abolish the office of Clerk of Supervisors' Court of New-York, and to transfer his duties to the County Clerk.

Mr. WILLET gave notice of a bill to provide for the appointment of Notaries.

Mr. RAYMOND's resolutions relative to French Spoliations prior to 1800, were agreed to.

Mr. BOWIE called up his resolutions urging Congress to abolish flogging in the Navy, and they were again laid over to be printed.

The weather very cold—thermometer below zero this morning.

### The Taghkanic Indians.

From the Columbia County Republican.

It is well known to every body in this vicinity, at all events, that the town of Taghkanic in this county, has within the past year been the scene of numerous fires, and also other serious depredations upon various inhabitants of that section, such as killing of valuable cattle, destroying barns, houses and sheds, and also any wall or fence which the public safety or welfare may require to be demolished.

To have power to estimate and determine what amount of money may be necessary to defray the annual current expenditures of the city, and to adopt all legal and requisite measures for levying and collecting it.

Having disposed of this business the Convention adjourned.

A SINGULAR CASE.—The *Easton Argus* of the 20th describes a curious transaction which occurred there. Two men came to that place last Fall, representing themselves as the sheriff and his deputy, from Milwaukie, Wisconsin, with a warrant from Gov. Shunk, made out upon a requisition from the Governor of Wisconsin, for the arrest of a German named Simon Schweitzer, charged with forgery. They appeared before the Associate Judges, procured the proper authority, and took him away. The Fatherland Lodge of Odd Fellows, of which Mr. Schweitzer was a member, wrote to Wisconsin, where he had been a short time before, to purchase land. An answer was received from the Governor of Wisconsin, stating that no requision upon Governor Shunk had ever been granted. It was thus evident that Mr. Schweitzer has been foully dealt with. The Fatherland Lodge is instituting inquiries concerning his fate.

STABBING.—On Saturday afternoon, two soldiers at the recruiting office, Liberty-st. becoming excited against each other for some cause, fell to work to cut revenge from each other's bodies. One, with more might than the other, succeeded in cutting deeper and more effectualy than his antagonist, who was compelled to give up conquered. He was horribly mangled by the stabs of the knife used. The victor was seized by Fox, and after an examination before Alderman Steele, was fully committed for assault and battery. [Pittsburgh Post, 9th.

DEATH OF A SISTER OF CHARITY.—Sister Mary Dinnes, born Catherine Troy, died yesterday at the Charity Hospital in this city of typhoid fever. She was 55 years of age, had been connected with this Hospital for fifteen years, and was born in the County of Waterford, Ireland. This devoted woman fell a victim to her exertions in the exertions in the cause of ministering to the wants and distresses of the sick and dying by whom she was surrounded. When such a woman dies it is a public calamity as well as a source of private grief. [N. O. Pic. 3d.

LONGEVITY IN LITCHFIELD.—The *Litchfield* (Ct.) *Enquirer* publishes a list of the persons in that town, who on the 1st of January had reached the age of seventy and upward. The list contains 236 names: 116 males and 120 females. Of these, 68 are 80 years old and upward; and 7 are 90 and over! The population of the town in 1840 was 4,036, showing about 1-17th of the entire population to be 70 years old and upward!

DROWNED.—Yesterday afternoon a young man named John H. Cowen, aged about thirty, was found drowned in the lower saw mill race. The deceased had been afflicted with epilepsy for many years, and was doubtless drowned in one of the paroxysms of that disease. He was the only son of a widowed mother residing in this place. [Belvidere (N. J.) Apollo, 7th.

POPULATION OF SYRACUSE.—Mr. J. A. Leonard has just completed the census of Syracuse, which now contains 13,741 inhabitants.


## NOTICES.

PHRENOLOGISTS AND PUBLISHERS,
FOWLERS & WELLS,
Clinton Hall, 131 Nassau-st. N. Y.

☞ Dr. Banning's Office removed to 369 Broadway, near Franklin-st. where the "Patent Body Brace" may be had. 2f im

☞ J. D. Wheeler, Commissioner of Deeds for New-York and Connecticut, Tammany Hall. 2f 1f

## CITY ITEMS.

FRIDAY, Feb. 11.

PITIABLE SITUATION.—A well-dressed and interesting female, who gave her name as Ellen Baker, last evening called at the Eleventh District Station House and asked permission to remain there a short time, as she was then very sick. She stated that her friends, with whom she had resided for some time past, and who were in affluent circumstances, (but whose names she refused to disclose,) had recently treated her very unkindly, and had finally, for some alleged cause, driven her to seek an asylum among strangers. She had wandered around in a state of mind bordering on distraction for a night and almost two days, when she was found by officer Wells, who induced her to accompany him to the Station House, and thereby saved her from self-destruction, which she admitted that she meditated. In consequence of the exposure to which she had been subject, she became very sick with fever, and a physician was necessarily called to render medical aid.

FIRE.—The alarm of fire about 4 o'clock this morning was occasioned by the chimney of house 9 Elm-st. taking fire.

HEXAMETER OUTDOOR.—The following is from a languishing swain to his gentle divinity:

Oh! lady fear thy lover sigh,
No river heart there is than mine;
I read compliance in your eye,
Then why not say at once, I've kept you waiting a long time, and if you'll have patience till I can get a wedding dress made, I'll be there.

☞ An imaginary bust of Pocahontas, by our countryman, Mosier, has been lately brought out from Florence by the same gentleman. [Evening Post.

Pray, what was it made of?

RESCUED FROM DROWNING.—Thomas Dille of 20 Maiden-lane, fell into the slip at the foot of Dover-st. at early hour this morning, but was rescued by Policeman Quinn of the Fourth Ward.... Another man named Edward Knowlton, fell into the water at the foot of Fulton-st. East River, and was rescued by an officer of the Second Ward.... A butcher's shop at the corner of Thirtieth-st. and Sixth-avenue was broken into some time last night, and about $30 worth of meat stolen therefrom.

INFANTICIDE.—Upon making a *post mortem* examination of the body of an infant found secreted under some boards in Beach-st. it was discovered that it had been killed by blows inflicted on the head by some person or persons unknown.

GENERAL SESSIONS.—Charles Blake, colored, indicted for petit larceny, John Silvia and Ann Logan, indicted for grand larceny, were brought into Court on bench warrants and committed for trial.... James Anson was tried and convicted of receiving goods knowing the same to have been stolen. Sentence deferred.

POLICE.—John Williams *alias* William Williams, *alias* Long Bill, who was tried about a week ago in the Court of Sessions for an indictment for burglary, but acquitted by the Jury, was rearrested on Wednesday night by officer Norris, of the Chief's bureau, on a charge of having broken into the store of Mr. Timothy Mosely, in Philadelphia, in October last.... James Avoy was taken into custody by officer Farley, on a charge of stealing a quantity of clothing, valued at $33, from W. Shepherd of 48 Maiden-lane.... Ann Smith was brought up and detained to answer a charge of stealing a $10 bill from John Kinney, on the Five Points.... Henry Adams was arrested on a charge