BROOKLYN ITEMS.

MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL.—The members of the Board met at the City Hall on Monday evening. We append a brief synopsis of the proceedings:

Alderman Smith offered a resolution directing the advertising for estimates for cleaning the streets of the city, and the Corporation printing. Alderman Marven moved a resolution that the fiscal year commence on the 1st of September. Also to apply to the Legislature for leave to borrow a sum not exceeding $150,000, to meet the existing liabilities of the city. The resolution was opposed by Alderman Stillwell, who moved to refer it to the Finance Committee. Alderman Spinola made an amendment, giving power to said Committee, as it was necessary that the application should be made to the Legislature at an early day. So adopted. Alderman Taylor moved that the sum of $25 be fixed as the sum to be charged by the Excise Committee for licenses. The same gentleman offered the following:

Resolved, That this Common Council earnestly and most solemnly protests against the repeal of, or any interference with, the several acts authorizing the Orphan Asylums of this city to receive their due proportion of school-money for educational purposes.

Resolved, That the School Committee be empowered to prepare and forward to the Legislature a protest on the part of this Common Council, against such repeal, and to request our Representatives in said Legislature to lend their aid in the cause. Referred to the Committee on Schools for report.

The Mayor presented a communication from W. E. Saltar, Commandant of the Navy Yard, remonstrating against a building and steam engine recently erected near the Navy Yard wall, which, in his opinion, is dangerous to the property in the Yard. Referred to Police Committee.

The Mayor also presented his objections to the resolution passed at the last meeting of the Board, allowing the policemen $500 per annum. The Mayor stated his reasons; $450 was the compensation agreed upon, and generally understood by the applicants; and that the Board, as trustees of the people, should consider the interests of the tax-payers as well as the recipients of their bounty. The resolution for $500 was reenacted, notwithstanding the objections of His Honor, 13 ayes to 7 nays, most of the minority voting in favor. A communication from the City Clerk was read, asking for leave to appoint an assistant in his office. Referred to Finance Committee.

BURGLARIES.—About 5 o'clock Friday morning the premises 141 and 143 Duffield-st. occupied by Messrs. Truesdale and Frederickson, were entered through the coal vault. The robbers succeeded in carrying off a gold repeating watch, a couple of suits of clothes, and sundry other articles.—They were disturbed in their operations by one of the ladies of the family, who gave an alarm.—They were pursued but made good their escape. There must have been a gang of some six or eight of them in company, for when the alarm was given, there was a rush from various adjoining houses which had been entered about the same time. Three other houses in Atlantic-st. were entered on Friday night, but not much property was abstracted, the rogues being disturbed in their operations.

NEW-JERSEY ITEMS.

ARTESIAN WELL.—The India Rubber Manufacturing Company of Newark are boring an Artesian Well on the grounds owned by them at the head of the Inclined Plane. The progress so far finds no serious impediment, and they anticipate reaching a copious stream of water at a comparative small depth.

RETIRED.—B. F. YARD, Esq. editor and publisher of the *Temperance Visitor*, at Trenton, has withdrawn from the cares and perplexities of editorial life. He has lost $2,000 in the effort to maintain a temperance paper in New-Jersey. Mr Coleman succeeds him.

☞ Ocean County, which was thought to contain 13,000 inhabitants, is whittled down by the Census to a little over 8,000.

DEATH FROM RUM.—On Friday last, James McMurtry, a team driver in the employ of Oakes Ames, of Franklin, Sussex Co. while driving with a load of wood, fell from his wagon, and was almost instantly killed. He was in a state of intoxication at the time.

ATTEMPT TO COMMIT BURGLARY.—The residence of Col. Isaac Baldwin, on the corner of Broad and Franklin sts, Newark, was attempted to be entered on Saturday night. One of the back windows was raised, when the servant girl, perceiving a man in the act of entering, gave the alarm, and the burglars were frightened away.

☞ A man named Kent, in the vicinity of the Arsenal, South Trenton, nearly severed his head from his body in a temporary fit of insanity, on Friday afternoon. Medical aid was called in, but too late to be of any service.

FIRE.—A fire broke out Monday morning in Simpson & Bradner's Patent Leather Factory, 154 River st, Newark, which with its contents was entirely consumed.

GENERAL BANKING LAW.—We learn that Hon. John Cassedy has prepared a General Banking Bill, which will be presented to the Legislature at an early day, in which the essential provisions of his former bill are preserved, while it contains such additions and improvements as have suggested themselves to the mind of the author.

☞ Among other applications, this session, will be one for chartering a Ferry Co. at Kaighn's Point, in the Southern part of Camden.

Later from Havana—Jenny Lind.

By the steamship Isabel, which sailed from Havana on the 8th inst. we have files of the *Faro Industrial* up to that date. The Isabel, with Jenny Lind, Benedict, Belleti and Barnum on board, reached Havana on the morning of the 4th. The same evening the opera of *The Huguenots* was performed at the Tacon Theater, which was filled with an immense audience, under the supposition that Jenny Lind would be present. All the vocalists surpassed their previous efforts, and Salvi, Steffanoni, Bosio and Marini were vehemently applauded. The first Concert was to take place on the evening of the 10th. Jenny Lind was to sing "*Casta Diva*," "*Come per me sereno*," the Flute Song and the Echo Song. The prices of admission were: for a box in the first or second tiers, $17; do. in the third, $13; a seat in the parquet, $4 25; promenade tickets to the parquet, $2; amphitheater, $2; upper gallery, $1 50. The *Faro* expresses its gratification at the moderate scale of prices. A dance entitled "The Arrival of Jenny Lind" was already in the course of publication: and the *Faro* expresses its inability to publish the immense quantity of poetry relative to the occasion, which it had received. The Habaneros are already under the spell. Beyond these particulars, we find no news of interest.

EDITORS FOR OFFICE.—Solon Turman (Opp.) Editor of the *People's Friend*, has been elected to the State Senate from Fountain Co., Ind., by a majority of 63 over his opponent, who belongs to the same party.

At the recent special election in the VIth District of Ohio, the Editor of the Upper Sandusky *Pioneer* was supported by his friends in Wyandot for Congress. He thus records his own defeat:

We feel indebted to our friends for the complimentary vote we received for Congress, although our ambition never aspired to fill that honorable station, yet we received 45 votes out of 250. Had it not been for our numerous, talented and popular competitors, in this county, we might have been triumphantly elected; and, had such been the case, we would have been sadly disappointed, as we are well aware that many who voted for us, would have filled the seat more conspicuously than our humble self.

☞ The *Cleveland* (Ohio) *Herald* commences the new year with a new volume in a new suit and in a new building, erected expressly for, and rendered necessary by the increasing business of the concern. The *Herald* is a stanch Whig paper.

Pennsylvania Items.

A State Temperance Convention is to be held at Harrisburg on the 23d of this month.

GOV. WM. F. JOHNSTON declines the nomination for U. S. Senator tendered to him by the Whig members of the Legislature.

The 'Democracy' of old Berks held a County meeting in the Court-House a week ago. The resolution instructing the members of the Legislature from Berks not to vote for Gen. Cameron for U. S. Senator was reconsidered and voted down, leaving the members to do as they please, or rather *instructing* them by implication, to vote for the Winnebago Chief.

The *Reading* (Berks) *Gazette* and *Democrat* urges George W. Woodward, of Luzerne, as a fit Opposition candidate for Senator. Judge Woodward has also been named by many other presses.

The "*North Branch Democrat*," edited by George Sanderson, (ex-Buffalo delegate) State Senator—is the third or fourth Anti-Wilmot paper, that has been started in Bradford county, Pennsylvania.

The Farmers of Perry and many other counties are moving in the appointment of Delegates to the State Agricultural Convention, at Harrisburg, third Tuesday in January, 21st inst.

The York 'Democratic' County Convention, which met on Monday last, passed resolutions in favor of James Buchanan.

The American Intelligencer, a new paper has just been started by John Case, at M'Ewensville, Northumberland Co. Pa. He proposes to substitute "I" for the editorial "we." He means to advocate the "principles and measures of the great 'Democratic party,' as defined and understood by those pure Patriots and illustrious Statesmen, Jefferson, Jackson, Polk, and Shunk!"

—The Locofoco State Central Committee at the meeting held on the 30th ult., eighteen members participating, rescinded the previous resolution of the committee designating Harrisburg as the place for the meeting of the State Convention to nominate candidates for the Supreme Bench, and directing the Convention to meet at Reading on the 5th of June, being two days after the Convention at the same place to nominate candidates for Governor and Canal Commissioner. The *Pennsylvanian* refuses to recognise the proceedings as regular, and the action of the committee seems likely to produce any thing but harmony in the Opposition wigwam. The fight for U. S. Senator, which is just now directing the attention of the belligerants from various other interesting matters, is only the beginning of the fun.

MASSACHUSETTS.—The *Salem* (Mass.) *Freeman* (Coalition) inquires if a Homestead Exemption Law will go into operation in that State by the 1st of next January, in view of so many States passing laws of this kind. Not unless the friends of Reform in the Legislature exert themselves. Fifteen States have Homestead Exemption Laws, and New-Hampshire and Rhode Island are also moving in that important matter. The Exemption of the Homestead has been engrafted into the Constitutions of several of the States.

MASSACHUSETTS—ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS—The Massachusetts Legislature in joint Convention proceeded to the Election of Members of the State Council on Monday, with the following result:

Whole number of votes.....333
Necessary for a choice.....195

COALITION.

Dist.	I..Isaac Emery of Boston	224
"	II..John B. Alley of Lynn	225
"	III..George W. Dyke of Stoneham	224
"	IV..Isaac Davis of Worcester	225
"	V..Rodolphus B. Hubbard of Sunderland	224
"	VI..Noah Gibson of New-Marlboro	225
"	VII..Philo Leech of Bridgewater	225
"	VIII..Edgar K. Whittaker of Needham	225
"	IX..Johnson Gardner of Seekonk	225

WHIG.

Dist.	I..Thomas Tolman of Boston	163
"	II..John Tenney of Methuen	163
"	III..Luther V. Bell of Somerville	163
"	IV..Paul Whitin of Northbridge	162
"	V..Alpheus Harding of New-Salem	163
"	VI..Charles M. Owen of Stockbridge	163
"	VII..Samuel L. Crocker of Taunton	163
"	VIII..Benjamin F. Copeland of Roxbury	163
"	IX..William James of South Scituate	193

Messrs. EMERY, ALLEY, DIKE, DAVIS, HUBBARD, GIBSON, LEACH, WHITAKER and GARDINER were declared duly chosen.

KENTUCKY.—The Opposition have nominated LAZARUS W. POWELL for Governor, and Robert W. Wickliffe for Lieutenant Governor of Kentucky.

WISCONSIN.—At a County meeting of the inhabitants of Marquette Co. held recently at Wautosa, the following action was taken upon the great question of Land Reform, B. Chamberlain, Chairman, and L. H. Flagg, Secretary:

Resolved, That we regard the settlement and improvement of the public lands as a measure highly important in promoting the prosperity of our country, increasing our domestic productions, and thereby adding to our resources.

Resolved, That should our public lands become generally settled and improved, the number of *consumers* of foreign products would be greatly increased and a larger and more permanent source of *revenue* would be furnished than all that will accrue from the sale of the lands, at the present rates.

Resolved, That we regard it not only as sound policy, but as a *duty* for the General Government to encourage the settlement of the public domain, by granting to each actual settler such a portion of land as shall furnish him a *permanent* homestead, and which shall, in some degree, compensate him for the toils and privations incident to early settlers.

Resolved, That we cordially approve of the course pursued by our Senator in Congress, the Hon. I. P. WALKER, in his efforts to procure the passage of a law to that effect, and that we pledge to him our sympathy and cordial support.

IOWA.—The anual meeting of the Iowa State Temperance Society was held at Iowa City, Dec. Ex Gov. Lucas, Chairman. Delegates were present from most of the Counties. The following gentlemen were chosen officers for the ensuing year:

For President—Geo. Temple of Desmoines.
For Vice Presidents.—Geo. Greene of Linn, Jacob Hunter of Lee, Warner Lewis of Dubuque.
For Secretary and Treasurer.—Jos. T. Fales of Johnson.
For the Executive Committee.—Robert Lucas of Johnson, James L. Thompson ditto, S. H. Hazard ditto, John M. Colman ditto, Jesse Bowen ditto, L. Washburn of Muscatine, Augustus Hull of Van Buren, H. W. Cobb of Scott.

Article 2d of the Constitution explains the objects of this Society:

"The objects of this Society are not to supersede or in any way to interfere with existing organizations within this State, but to secure to the greatest possible extent the action and coöperation of all the friends of Temperance throughout the State, whether in or out of existing organizations, upon the broad platform of the total abstinence pledge, in a grand, harmonious and united effort to put an end to the use of intoxicating liquor, as a beverage, and to secure as soon as possible, by all just and lawful means, the enactment and full execution of such laws as will remove from the community the evils of Intemperance, and effectually prevent their return."

IOWA.—On the motion of a Free Soiler (Mr. Espy) in the State Senate, the House proposition for a Union Mass meeting was adopted on the 21st ult. which was to be held on the 8th of January. The meeting was called for the purpose of expressing the attachment of all parties in Iowa for the Union, and not for political capital, the avowed object of the exclusive pro-slavery Unionists in this vicinity, whose sole object, agitation, was apparent to all.

—The question of Internal Improvements, and the policy of amending the State Constitution so as to allow the passage of a general Railroad Law, is much agitated in Iowa.

PLAQUEMINE.—The Editor of the *Sentinel* writes in this style:

"At present we do not believe there is a vacant house in Plaquemine, either as a dwelling or for a store or shop; and although for the last three years the rearing of buildings of every description has gone forward with a rapidity unequaled, we venture to say, by any other town in the interior of the State, it is nevertheless the fact that this increase of dwellings has not in the least degree decreased the want of them; and at the present time they are more in demand, perhaps, than at any former period.

"Plaquemine is certainly destined to increase in importance and magnitude as time advances, and to an extent that no human intellect can pretend to divine. It is evidence of extreme ignorance and short-sightedness, to think otherwise. It is the capital of a parish of nearly $8,000,000 of real estate—its population rapidly increasing, and new and splendid sugar-houses annually sending up for the first time those white wreaths of steam, which speak so powerfully of wealth, enterprise and industry."

Has the next Presidential Election any connection with this remarkable growth?

HARVARD COLLEGE.—Mr. Charles T. Choate of Salem, has been appointed Tutor in Mathematics in Harvard College, to succeed Mr. J. P. Cooke, whose appointment as Professor of Chemistry and Natural Philosophy, and consequent resignation of his office as Tutor, we announced some days since. [Boston Traveller.

The World's Fair at London—What the United States is doing, &c.

Correspondence of The Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Monday, Jan. 6, 1851.

DEAR SIR: Knowing the interest you take in all that concerns our Nation's Progress, and especially in Arts and Sciences, I hope you will call the attention of your readers to the importance of being well represented in the great World's Fair at London in May.

So far, our countrymen have exhibited but little interest in the matter, and this appears surprising to any one who is acquainted with our ability and resources. There are as yet not two hundred applicants, although the representation from different parts of the Union bids fair to be good. South Carolina sends specimens of her Forest-Trees, and of Cotton, Rice, Turpentine, &c. She also sends Shirtings, Sheetings, and Drillings.

Ohio, we understand, sends a large quantity of Catawba Wine, and has just sent on Hams and Shoulders, fine Combing Wool, Lard Oil, Plows, Indian Corn, Beef, Tallow, Flour, &c. &c.

A new and very superior *Microscope* is to be sent from Ohio, of 6,000 diameter power.

A *Planetarium*, constructed by Thomas H. Barlow of Kentucky, will be exhibited, and will attract much attention. It is intended to exhibit, upon mechanical principles, and by means of contrivances not only new but wonderfully simple beautiful and efficacious, not only the ordinary and well understood system of planetary motions, but also to demonstrate the most intricate and complex movements of all the bodies, primary and secondary, which enter into our Solar System.

A *Miniature Steam Engine*, complete in all its parts, made by Lyman C. Higginbotham of Vernon, Oneida Co. New-York, will also be exhibited. This was made by him without any assistance and with no previous application to any mechanical trade, and he is but *sixteen* years of age.

A splendid collection of the leaves of the American forests carefully prepared by Miriam G. de Bonneville of Westerly, R. I. will also be sent to London. These leaves are arranged in natural order upon sheets of Bristol board and bound in rich garnet-colored velvet, with gold clasps and corners. The leaves are so prepared that they retain their natural color, and will make a beautiful display of the wonderful change the foliage undergoes, and which takes place in no other part of the world.

New-Hampshire, Rhode-Island, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Indiana, Ohio, Maryland, Kentucky, Illinois, Alabama, Missouri, Mississippi, South-Carolina and Michigan have already sent articles for the Exhibition.

The New-York State Committee are now fully authorized to act on all cases presented to their consideration, and it is hoped they will continue to receive articles until the latest possible moment.

The frigate *St. Lawrence* has positively been ordered to convey the articles to London, and is now being put in order for that purpose. She will not leave New-York before the middle of February.

In the meantime our Inventors and Scientific men should exert themselves to the utmost to secure a large as well as a good representation for our country. There are 2,500 exhibiters from France, and Belgium will be represented by 686 manufacturers.

Even Austria will send more than 1,000 exhibiters with specimens of her industry.

The Executive Committee of the Central Authority of the United States have from the first instance exerted themselves to the utmost to extend a knowledge of the objects of the Exhibition throughout our country and have incurred a great expense in printing Circulars, Certificates, &c. It is hoped that Congress will make an appropriation to defray the expense of conveying a limited number of our Artisans and others interested in the great objects of the Exhibition to London.

This will be done by many other Governments, and ours certainly should be as liberal.

Yours, &c. M. S. S.

Remarks.

We trust Congress will do nothing like what is here suggested—absolutely nothing. If Congress should find any money in the Treasury not wanted for the public service, we trust it will faithfully apply said surplus to the paying off of our Public Debt, now really One Hundred Millions, and more likely to increase than diminish. Paying the passage of citizens to attend a World's Fair in London would be a very questionable use of Public Money. We think of attending that Fair, and see no reason why the Country should pay other men's traveling expenses rather than ours, which it certainly shall *not* pay. The Government is quite generous in offering to convey articles to that London Fair for nothing: conveying gazers would be carrying the joke quite too far.

There will be no lack of articles for Exhibition from this country. There will be not less than One Thousand sent, and many of them will reflect the highest credit on our National skill and iventive genius. But what sense there is in sending barrels of Turpentine, Hams, &c. we cannot imagine. [*Ed. Trib.*

Postage Reform.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

As our Post Office laws are now under the consideration of Congress, I wish to suggest, through your paper, a few ideas of mine on the subject.

First. I cannot see why a letter weighing over half an ounce, *slightly*, should be charged double postage, (i. e.) 6 cts. instead of 3, but think 5 cts. would be quite high enough, as it would be no more trouble to mail or deliver the letter than a single one, the slight additional cost of transportation being almost the entire extra expense. Five cents postage would conform also to our half-dime coin.

Second. The utility of Post-Offices consists mainly, in my opinion, in the safety, certainty, convenience and dispatch with which mail matter may be transmitted from place to place. Now there are Post Offices within a few miles of this, which frequently do not receive a letter sent from here for a fortnight or more, and yet they receive three or four mails per week, but from different central points, so that perhaps the packages are sent back and forth from one Post-Office to another, because of their reaching their first place of distribution a little too late. To obviate this difficulty I would have every Post-Office supplied by the Department with *Sectional Mail Route Maps* marking out the petty routes and the days of the week on which letters could be sent by them, so that there might be *certainty* if not *dispatch* in transmitting.

Third. I can see *but little* use in Distributing Offices being required to make up packages every day to an office that receives only a weekly mail, but think it would be less trouble to both Receiving and Distributing Offices, to have a weekly mail only made up at the Distributing Office. I would gladly make other suggestions, but think your columns may be better occupied by yourself and others. A JERSEY POSTMASTER.

DIDN'T LIKE THE JUG.—A wealthy, popular, and gay young gentleman once boasted that he could walk home with any one of the members of a certain Division of the Daughters of Temperance, from Church; he accordingly, after services were over, on the next Sabbath, spruced up to a fair damsel, and with a polite bow, tendered his arm. The young lady, as by instinct, drew back as from a serpent, and exclaimed: "No, sir: I'll never put my arm through another *jug handle* as long as I live!"

DEATH OF A HEROINE.—Mrs. Bailey, who is renowned for her patriotism in furnishing *means* for prosecuting the battles of the Revolution, was burned to death a few days since at her résidence in Groton, opposite New-London. She was upward of 90 years of age.

New-Hampshire Politics—Mr. Atwood—The Prospect, &c.

Correspondence of The Tribune.

CONCORD, N. H., Tuesday, Jan. 7.

New-Hampshire politics are so rife with startling and interesting events that your readers, I presume, will feel an interest in glancing at some of the more important features that are immediately presented.

Daniel Webster's late visit to "Elms Farm"—where politicians of various shades and fortunes, and Rev. Doctors, went into ecstacies of friendship around tables where blessings were invoked ever "colored beverages" that "tasted good," or, in more refined phrase, "that were pleasing to the eye and not bad to take"—this visit and its attendant events have made some strange bed-fellows—bed fellows who are so *ardent* in their caresses and tender feelings that in their antics there is a prospect of former friends and associates being kicked, not only out of bed, but out of family and inheritance. Whether they are waxing fat in their kickings is not so clear, unless a certain rotundity and ruddiness indicate such a condition.

Those most seriously involved in the alliances formed and in prospect are the leaders of the old Hunker Democracy. They have forgotten all the rage and fury with which they beset Southern Democratic States after Gen. Taylor's election—when they accused them of forsaking their firm and only allies of the North to elect a Whig President because he was a slaveholder, and promised in future to be revenged by tieing them up in the Wilmot Proviso and clogging them with every other measure they detest, and which the most ultra Abolitionist could desire. Forgetting all this, with all the resolutions and declarations they have made during two yeats past of a similar character, they have caught a glimpse of the stakes that may be turned on the next Presidential Election, and it is at once "as clear as mud" that 'Southern Rights' and Southern spirit have been outraged by wicked and unprincipled fanatics of the North, whose only aim is to sow the seeds of dissolution, discord and civil war, and that "the great National Democratic party" is the only conservator of Union, harmony and order, and these can only be maintained by strict adherence to the late Compromises. Who so subscribes to this creed and goes in for a Union on these terms, and upon no other, is entitled to letters of fellowship and the heartiest support of the great unterrified "National Democratic Union party," and who so dares doubt in regard to this immutable decree is to be peremptorily consigned to the tender mercies of the "monsters of the briny deep," and no rope is to be drawn to exclude the great sea serpent from the feast. The probability is that it will be a regular thanksgiving dinner to them too; for, unless I mistake, the heretics are more than the faithful, and the consequent difficulty may be to find strength to execute the decree to thus submerge them.

The leaders thus committed—thus staking their political fortunes, found themselves repudiated by their own candidate for Governor in *his* letter to Mr. White and others; and, consequently, in a fix. If Mr. Atwood were elected, standing thus pledged against their darling schemes, he were virtually elected against them and as a triumph of their opponents. What then must be done? He could not be thrown overboard, because the people would plunge after him and rescue him, to the confusion of his enemies. He must be disgraced, broken down, and then he could be put afloat with impunity. With this determination the document purporting to be his second letter was extorted, the method of which I need not relate, as regarding that your readers are already informed.

As soon as set at liberty, meeting his friends, Mr. Atwood assures them that his sentiments remain unaltered—that he firmly adheres to the sentiments of his only *real* declaration, and shall continue thus; all of which is put forth by the *Manchester Democrat*, while the Editor, Mr. Goodale, proffers the proof. Here is presented the opportunity to Burke him. The *Democrat* is charged with falsehood, and Atwood challenged to confirm the charge. The *Newport Argus* of last week comes out thus, more explicitly and directly than any previous issue of any of the organs; and, thereupon Edmund Burke comes to Concord and has a secret interview with the junto. Here it was determined to decapitate their victim, and the whole process arranged to carry it out. He is to be questioned regarding the truth of *The Democrat's* assertions, and, admitting them, he is to receive his final plunge, or, denying the evidence, the proof is to be brought out and he goes over upon that. So there is no alternative left for him but to go down; unless, perchance, he proves himself strong enough to upset the whole crew of his pursuers by availing himself of the opportunity their questioning will present of reasserting his real views, and thus recovering the strength of that position which he took in his letter to Mr. White. Whether he will prove sagacious and manly enough for his pursuers remains to be seen, and takes no load of infamy from their backs.—They have undertaken to sacrifice him by as vile a scheme as was ever concocted by villainously fertile brains, and the reaction shall be upon their heads. The game was too atrocious, even, to attach to the meanest set of political gamblers without shocking public sentiment; and it *must* meet its reward.

Peaslee is re-nominated in this Congressional District, and desperate efforts will be made to reelect him. The game is to get the Webster Whigs to nominate Hon. Joel Eastman, who, in case it appears necessary, is to play into Peaslee's hands by stumping the District for him. How this will proceed is, as yet, problematical.

Although there has been the most unwearied efforts to forestall public opinion through Conventions, &c. yet, from the most reliable indication I can yet, it cannot succeed. That the people generally, Whigs and Democrats, will not be led to renounce their only strength and every principle of real liberty by entering the crusade against the Right of Free Discussion seems to me so apparent that I cannot question the matter. However time alone can present the result, and if we err in our estimate of the character of our people, it will not be the first time our confidence has been shocked by events proving it misplaced.

Yours, &c. WARREN.

Tent Life in California—Free and easy experiences.

[Extract from a letter communicated to the Tribune.]

CALIFORNIA, Saturday, Nov. 23d, 1850.

We are here at the old place, Dwight City, making enough to get our grub, without begging; that is pretty much all. For my part, I am not very miserable; it makes little difference where I am; I do not know that I have any children crying or suffering for my absence. As you say I have no wife to write to me, neither have I any to trouble herself at my absence, nor to curse me because I do not make my fortune and come home. If I had a wife she wohld be here with me, to wash my shirts and do my mending. I could make one very *useful* as well as *ornamental*, and where I could live, she could live also. The fact is, we are not so badly off in our *tents* as you may imagine; they are quite as comfortable as your three and four story bricks. One important feature in favor of our houses, is, there is no getting up stairs. We eat, drink, and sleep on one floor, (beg your pardon,) on the ground,—it is all the same. If a snake or a mouse wishes to share with us the same floor, we never dispute their right. They probably have the best right being the oldest settlers. We have no history by which one can tell when they first took possession. They might have come in Solomon's ships which he sent here to get gold, when he was building the temple.

I have often heard people say they had found the place where Solomon dug his gold, and I think I have found one of them, for there is none left. There are mighty few Solomons left now-a-days, or this country would not have so many fools coming to it. I was one of the fools, yet I came here with my eyes open, expecting nothing, and I have not been disappointed. But I am not troubled: I would as soon live here as anywhere in the country. There is no part of the world that I have seen that is pleasanter than this same California, or where a man can make a comfortable living easier. Any man with two hands can do it, wherever he may be placed, and pay $3 a day for board.

The rainy season we conclude, has commenced, as it has rained since Tuesday evening last, and we have, like the squirrels, put in our winter provisions and gone into our holes. The weather is not cold; were it not for the rain we should need no fire. I have seen many colder days than this at home in August. Yet there has been no time during the *summer*, when the mercury stood at 100 that we could not go on the top of a hill near us and see the mountains covered with snow which I suppose has been there ever since Adam was a little boy, and will last as long as the world does.

From sickness we have been remarkably free this season. There has been much of the cholera at Sacramento during the last six weeks, but it has not reached the mines.

Exemptions.

To the Editor of The Tribune:

In Part III, Chap. VI., Title 5, Sec. 23, of the Revised Statutes, is contained the following provision for the exemption of certain articles from execution:

"The following property, when owned by any person being a householder, shall be exempt from levy and sale, under any execution; and such articles thereof as are movable, shall continue so exempt, while the family of such person, or any of them, may be removing from one place of residence to another:

"1. All spinning wheels, weaving-looms and stoves, put up or kept for use, in any dwelling house:

"2. The family bible, family pictures and school books, used by or in the family of such person; and books not exceeding in value fifty dollars, which are kept and used as part of the family library:

"3. A seat or pew occupied by such person or his family in any house or place of public worship:

"4. All sheep to the number of ten, with their fleeces, and the yarn or cloth manufactured from the same; one cow, two swine, the necessary food for them; all necessary pork, beef, fish, flour, and vegetables, actually provided for family use; and necessary fuel for the use of the family for sixty days:

"5. All necessary wearing apparel, beds, bedsteads, and bedding, for such person and his family; arms and accoutrements, required by law to be kept by such person; necessary cooking utensils; one table; six chairs; six knives and forks; six plates; six tea cups and saucers; one sugar-dish; one milk pot; one tea-pot and six spoons; one crane and its appendages; one pair of andirons, and a shovel and tongs

6. "The tools and implements of any mechanic, necessary to the carrying on of his trade, not exceeding twenty-five dollars in value.

§ 24. "In addition to the articles now exempted by law for distress by rent or levy and sale under execution, there shall be exempted from such distress, and levy and sale, necessary household furniture and working tools and team owned by any person being a householder, or having a family for which he provides, to the value of not exceeding one hundred and fifty dollars; provided that such exemption shall not extend to any execution issued on a demand for the purchase money of such furniture, or tools, or team, or articles now enumerated by law."

The intention of the above quoted provisions was manifestly to prevent the distress and entire ruin of a man's home, family, peace, and his social and personal interests in case of embarrassment and misfortune. The same principle has been amplified in the Homestead Exemption Law, of April 10th of last year. Turning a family without a bed to sleep upon, or without a chair to sit upon, into the street, is a proceeding, happily sought to be prevented by our late legislation in regrad to debtors.

But this law is rendered entirely valueless and imperative in thousands of cases. I might detail you column after column of instances in which the law is defied, and men with families left with barely a trunk full of clothes for themselves and families. I know one case in which a physician had his horse sold under execution, while that horse most clearly came under the terms and intent of the law. I know a case in which a man's diploma of membership in a benevolent society was sold under execution, with other articles, such as his beds and bedding, table, chairs &c.

These proceedings, constantly occurring in the Rural Districts of our State, are based upon an alleged interpretation of the law by Judge JEWITT, to the effect that debts for articles exempted may be collected on *any* exempt articles. For instance, a debt for a table may be collected by execution and sale of any other article whatever. The law distinctly says that "the exemption shall not extend to any execution issued on a demand for the purchase money of such furniture, or tools, or team, or articles now enumerated by law." An execution to recover the purchase money of a table will take effect upon *that* table, but not upon a table worth four times as much, beside a bed and bedding, and chairs, flung in to be sold for one fourth of their value, to pay the Sheriff and the Justices for "heating the poker."

As many cases of oppresive severity are constantly occurring in the Country Districts, will you lay this communication before your readers for the information of the public, and to provoke discussion and a clear understanding of the law?

If Judge JEWITT's decision virtually repeals the humane provisions of the law, as it has done in numerous instances, will you not inform thousands interested whether his decision is correct or otherwise?

The importance of these questions to hundreds of sufferers suggests this communication, which otherwise would not have been submitted to you.

AUGUSTUS.

Postage Reform.

Mr. MATTESON offered in the House of Representatives, a few days ago, the following as a substitue for the bill, reported by Mr. POTTER, "to reduce and modify the rates of postage in the United States."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That letters carried in the mail of the United States, shall be charged with postage as follows:

Upon each letter not weighing over one half ounce, two and a half cents; and for each additional half ounce or fraction of half an ounce, two and a half cents, whenever the postage upon such letters shall be pre-paid. There shall be charged upon each unpaid letter weighing not more than half an ounce, five cents; and upon each additional half ounce or fraction of half an ounce so unpaid, the sum of five cents

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, There shall be charged upon each newspaper, pamphlet, periodical, magazine, book, and every other description of printed matter, which shall not contain any manuscript or written matter and which it may be lawful to transmit through the mail, of no greater weight than two ounces, one cent; and for each additional ounce, or fraction of an ounce, one cent. Bound books, not weighing over thirty ounces, shall be deemed mailable matter under the provisions of this section: *Provided*, That all newspapers published daily, weekly, semi-weekly and tri-weekly may be transmitted through the mail by the editors or publishers thereof, to all subscribers within forty miles of the town or other place in which the paper is or may be printed free of any charge for postage whatever, except the postmaster delivering such papers may, under such regulations as shall be prescribed by the Postmaster General, as and for a compensation for services of such postmaster, charge and receive annually in advance from each and every subscriber, the following sums: on a paper printed once in each week, ten cents; semi-weekly, twenty cents; tri-weekly, thirty cents, and daily, fifty cents.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the directors of the Mint in the United States are authorized and required to coin pieces of the value of two-and-a-half cents or quarter dimes, composed of three parts silver and one part alloy, which shall be a lawful tender for all debts of thirty dollars or under, due to the United States, and to individual, persons, and corporations.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, It shall be the duty of the Postmaster General to provide and furnish to all Deputy Postmasters, and other persons applying and paying therefor, suitable stamps of the denomination of two-and-a-half cents to facilitate the prepayment of the postage provided for in this act. And to any person who shall desire to purchase of the Postmaster General, or of any Deputy Postmaster, at any one time, an amount of stamps to the value of fifty dollars or upwards, such stamps shall be furnished at a discount of ten per cent. upon their par value. All Deputy Postmasters who shall receive at any one time stamps to the amount of fifty dollars, shall be allowed a deduction of ten per cent. upon the par value.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That there is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of $1,500,000, to supply any deficiency that may arise in the Post Office Department

SEC. 6 *And be it further enacted*, There shall be charged upon all letters transported in the mails from any of the Atlantic ports in the United States to any of the ports in the United States upon the Pacific, or from any of the ports in the United States upon the Pacific to any of the Atlantic ports in the United States, four times the rates charged in this act; and upon all newspapers, periodicals, and magazines, books, or other printed matter herein provided for, three times the usual rates.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That lists of letters remaining uncalled for in any Post Office, for the space of two weeks, in any city, town, or village, where a newspaper shall be printed, shall hereafter be published once only in a newspaper, which being issued as frequently as any other, shall have the largest circulation within the range of delivery of said office, to be decided by the Postmaster-General, under such regulations as shall be prescribed by him, at a charge not exceeding two-and-a-half cents on each letter called for. And the Postmaserr at such office is hereby directed to post in a conspicuous place in his office a copy of such list on the day or day after the publication thereof: *Provided, however*, if the publisher of any paper herein specified shall refuse to publish the list of letters as provided in this section, the Postmaster shall designate same other paper in which such list shall be published; and such publisher, so refusing, shall be deprived of all the benefits of this act, and the free exchange now provided by law.

COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

OFFICIAL.] **Board of Aldermen.**

STATED SESSION....MONDAY, Jan. 13, 1851.

Present.—MORGAN MORGANS, Esq. President; Ald. Griffin, Dodge, Sturtevant, Oakley, Chapman, Smith, Ball, Haws, Miller, Shaw, Cook, Bard, Delamater, Franklin Conklin and Dooley.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

PETITIONS.

By Ald. Chapman—Petition of J. & J. W. Weeks, to have Gas introduced into Staple-st between Duane and Jay sts—which was referred to Committee on Lamps and Gas.

By the President—Petition of Amos H. Farnsworth, to be appointed a Commissioner of Deeds—which was referred to Committee on Salaries and Offices

By Ald. Conklin—Remonstrance of owners of property on 26th-st. against the laying of rail in 26th-st—which was referred to Committee on Streets.

By Ald. Smith—Petition of Hudson River Railroad Company for a lease of the block of ground on West-Twelfth and Gansevoort sts.—which was referred to Committee on Finance.

By Ald. Smith—Application of Chas. Oakley for lease of part of the ground at old Fort Gansevoort, on Twelfth and Gansevoort sts.—which was referred to Committee on Finance.

Ay Ald. Sturtevant—Petition of New-York and Staten Island Ferry Co. for the lease of a Pier at the foot of Cortland st. Dey or Fulton—which was referred to Committee on Ferries.

By Ald Dooley—Petition of E. A. Smith and others, for lamps to be placed in 37th, 38th and 40th sts. between 2d 3d avenues—which was referred to the Committee on Lamps and Gas.

By the same—Petition of the Commissioners and Inspectors of Ward Schools in 19th Ward to make connections with sewer in 40th-st.—which was referred to Committee on Sewers.

By Ald. Ball—Bill of Harriet E. Lawrence for cleaning Justices and Police Court Rooms and new buildings at Jefferson Market—which was referred to Committee on Police.

RESOLUTIONS.

Ald. Shaw presented the following resolutions, viz:

Resolved, That the Commissioner of Repairs and Supplies be, and he is hereby directed to make a contract with Russ & Reid for a construction of the Russ pavement in Broadway, between the Southerly line of the intersection of Bleecker-st and the Northerly line of the intersection of Amity-st. the superstructure of said work to be composed of Liente or Trap rock from 5 to 12 inches inches in width, and of an uniform depth of 10 inches, to be laid diagonally as heretofore—the surface of the blocks to be ground at right angles with the line of the street, in such manner that the distance between each groove or joint shall not exceed 6 inches—the depth of each grove to be not less than half an inch and the width of each grove to be not less than three-quarters of an inch at the surface, the price of said work not to exceed six dollars and fifty cents per superficial square yard, and the sum of $18,000 is hereby appropriated to pay for the same.

Ald. Cook presented the following amendment, viz: Insert on the second line from the bottom, from the word "and" "The City paying one-half the cost, provided the balance shall be paid by private owners." And on the second line from the bottom strike out "18" and insert "nine"