THE NEW YORK HERALD.

WHOLE NO. 6093. MORNING EDITION----TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1851. PRICE TWO CENTS.

NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT INTELLIGENCE.

THE BOSTON FUGITIVE SLAVE CASE.

ARREST OF TWO AIDERS AND ABETTORS.

THE SAME CASE BEFORE CONGRESS.

Expected Proclamation of the President.

TWO WEEKS LATER FROM CALIFORNIA.

Additional Discoveries of Gold on the Sea Beach.

THE CHEAP POSTAGE BILL.

Reported Death of Hon. Henry A. Wise, in a Duel.

THOMPSON, THE ABOLLITIONIST, IN SPRINGFIELD.

THREATENED DISTURBANCE,

&c., &c., &c.

Important from Washington.

THE BOSTON FUGITIVE CASE IN WASHINGTON—EXPECTED PROCLAMATION BY PRESIDENT FILLMORE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17, 1851.

The *Herald* report of the Boston mob rescuing the fugitive Shadrach, excites a deep sensation in Congress, and in the Cabinet. It was the cause of a most singular debate on the character of the devil, in the Senate, to-day. Mr. Foote was called up, who declared he had seen the President this morning, who says that the law shall be enforced. If Mr. Clay's resolution passes, we will get the facts in this case. But it is almost too late for any legislation to enforce the law.

We understand that instructions have gone to Boston to recapture the fugitive, and to call upon the militia, if necessary, to secure him. Mr. Webster is mortified, and declares that public opinion in Boston is on the side of this law. Notwithstanding all that, the people will sustain it if called upon, better than United States troops.

President Fillmore, by the Secretary of State, will issue a proclamation to-morrow, condemning the mob proceedings in Boston, and calling upon all good citizens and public officers to see the laws obeyed and enforced.

The cheap postage bill was taken up with some prospect of success.

Gen. Paez has been presented at the White House, to the President, by the Hon. Daniel Webster, Secretary of State. The General has been invited by the Hon. Henry Clay to dine with him to-morrow.

The Virginia Legislature have a proposition pending, to postpone the election of Congressmen and members of the Legislature, from April to October next, in order that a new constitution may first be submitted to the people.

The census of Iowa is completed, and the population amounts to 192,214.

The Treasury Department has received, through our Consul at Guayaquil, a small sum of money belonging to a man drowned at Guayaquil, on his way to California. His name was supposed to be Charles Shaw, of New York. This information is given for the benefit of any relatives or heirs of the said Shaw, having a legal claim to his effects.

THIRTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

Senate.

BY MORSE'S MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

OFFICE CORNER OF BEAVER AND HANOVER STREETS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17, 1850.

SENATOR FROM MICHIGAN.

Mr. Felch presented the credentials of Mr. Cass, of Michigan, re-elected a Senator from that State, for six years from the 4th of March next.

PETITIONS.

A number of petitions were presented for and against the amendment of the patent laws.

Mr. Miller presented a petition for the establishment of a line of steamers to Africa.

Mr. Hamlin presented a petition asking that naval vessels be sent to California to bring home some Americans now there.

THE FUGITIVE SLAVE LAW.

Mr. Hamlin presented a petition from Maine, praying the repeal or modification of the Fugitive Slave law. He moved it be referred to the Judiciary Committee.

No objection being made, it was so referred.

Mr. Butler said he did not care whether the petition was referred or not. He would have nothing to do with the subject. The law might be repealed or not.

Mr. Atchison moved the vote referring the petition be reconsidered. There was no reason why the petition presented by the Senator from Maine should be referred, and the same petitions, presented by the Senator from New York, should be laid on the table.

Mr. Hamlin said the Judiciary Committee had the subject of the modification of the Fugitive Slave law before it, a bill to that effect introduced by Mr. Bright having already been referred to it. This petition was signed by most respectable persons in Maine. Petitions praying a repeal of the law he had moved to table, because the Senate had so decided, and not because he thought it correct.

Mr. Chase opposed the reconsideration. The reference was just and proper.

Mr. Bradbury pointed out the difference between this petition and Mr. Bright's bill. The latter was to declare the law of '93 not repealed, while this petition was to repeal the law.

Mr. Seward said the Senate records showed that petitions to make slavery laws more stringent are received and referred; a bill to make the Fugitive law more rigorous is also referred. Petitions for a modification of the law and to make it less rigorous are refused a reference. When the Senator from Pennsylvania presents such petitions they are received and referred; while petitions of the same kind presented by the Senator from New York, are laid on the table. He would vote against the reconsideration, because he was in favor of exact justice to all alike; also, because he thought it unjust to deny consideration to any petition sent to the Senate, whether signed by the *élite*, or by others more humble. If it was the object of the Senate to suppress agitation, this was the wrong mode to effect it. Congress for years refused, in some form or another, to receive petitions on the subject of slavery. The effect was to cause instead of quieting agitation, and was a denial of the right of petition. Whether the Senate received petitions and laid them on the table, or whether they refused to receive them at all, it would be a denial of the right of petition. He was in favor of receiving petitions, and considering them all. Congress, by enacting the Fugitive Slave law, had attempted to force on free States the political economy of slave States; and the experiment will, in this case, as in all others, have a reacting effect. Like the attempt of England to force Catholic Ireland to adopt the religion of Protestant England, a directly contrary effect will be produced. Whether petitions are received or not, they will continue to be presented, and their members will accumulate; and those who fancy agitation has been quieted by refusing to consider petitions, will discover their error. He had never introduced any subject to produce agitation; he contented himself with debate on bills legitimately before the Senate. He had never addressed the people by speech or letter, since the passage of the bill, with the object of producing agitation. He was content to leave the subject to the people. But when the people petitioned, their petitions should be considered.

Mr. Badger pointed out the distinction between Mr. Bright's bill and this petition. He thought Mr. Bright's bill was proper in itself, but he was sorry it had been introduced, because of the abuse of it as a precedent for disturbing the settlement of the last session. He denied that Mr. Seward was right in saying that unless the Senate considered all petitions, it was a denial of the right of petition.

Mr. Bradbury said it made no practical difference whether the petition was referred or not. The petitions presented by Mr. Cooper were now before the committee, and also Mr. Bright's bill. The committee had considered the subject, and had come to the conclusion that legislation on the subject was wholly unnecessary. He moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table, but withdrew it.

Mr. Butler considered the acts of last session as temporary obstacles only, in the way of the stream of fanaticism. He had said at last session, and now would have nothing to do with the subject; and when petitions were sent to the committee, he had declared he would have nothing to do, one way or other, with them. He would do nothing to resist the reception or reference of any petition or bill, for you might as well attempt to pacify a maniac by singing lullabys as to attempt, by concession to arrest a few fanatics.

Mr. Hale said the Fugitive Slave bill had workings very various in various sections. Under it a slave was returned to his master in New York. In Philadelphia a free man was kidnapped and sent to slavery. He was returned, however. In Boston the bill was worked so as to enable a mob to take an alleged fugitive from the court house. There was little conformity in the operations of the bill. He was for the repeal of the Fugitive Slave law, and cared little for agitation here; he would go before the people at home and agitate there, which was the surest place. He was an agitator, and shrunk from none of the imputations implied in the epithet of agitator; he gloried in being an agitator—all great events in progress of human liberty were achieved by agitators. O'Connell was an agitator; the men of the revolution were agitators—agitation was the element of life. Without agitation we would sink into a fetted pool of corruption. There was no purity without agitation; the pool of Bethesda became stagnant and impure, until it was agitated by an angel from heaven. He hoped agitation would never cease.

Mr. Berrien was sorry Mr. Hall, in advising the adjournment of agitation speeches from the Senate to the stump, had not himself set the example. The petition was formed of several pieces of paper, containing signatures, stuck together and at the head of them all was a printed petition to which others were posted. The petition set forth that Congress had passed an unconstitutional law, in violation of just principles; that it was so odious they could not sustain it, and were unwilling to abide its penalties. He had no doubt of the respectability of the persons whose names were attached to the petition; but because he believed they were respectable, he did not believe they had signed this petition.

Mr. Foote replied to Mr. Hale. He had read in the *Herald* an account of a mob in Boston, and, after an interview with the Secretary of State, was free to declare, having authority so to do, that the government intended to do its duty, and that the Fugitive Slave law would be enforced strenuously and rigorously.

Mr. Cooper was opposed to agitation. He believed that a majority of the people of Pennsylvania were in favor of carrying into execution the laws, particularly the laws of the last session, including the Fugitive Slave law. He would vote against the reconsideration, because petitions of the same kind, presented by him some time ago, had been referred, and because he believed if petitions on the subject of slavery were treated as all other petitions were, the cause for agitation by the North would be removed.

Mr. Hamlin read a letter stating that the petition had been signed by all those whose names were attached to it.

Mr. Pearce said Mr. Hale had made a charge of kidnapping in Philadelphia. The case of kidnapping had a peculiar and a legal signification. He knew all the parties. He knew the Commissioner, who was an eminent lawyer, and a man of honor, against whom the charge of kidnapping was idle; it was one of those cases of mistake in identity, which daily occurred in criminal cases. The alleged slave was returned, and that showed how groundless were the intimations that kidnapping would result from the bill. The Senator also gloried in the name of agitator. He abhorred it. He thought the Senator was unfortunate in likening his agitation to that agitation which disturbed the pool of Bethesda, by gentle, heavenly influence. All knew who was the first agitator. It was he who entered Paradise and corrupted the heart of the first woman. None can tell who will be the last agitator; but most of us can judge of the character of some of the successors of the first. (Laughter.)

Mr. Rhett asked Mr. Cooper if he understood him to say that Pennsylvania was satisfied with the Fugitive law, and whether laws obstructing the act of '93 had been repealed.

Mr. Cooper said that the majority of his constituents were in favor of executing the law. The legislative acts spoken of had not been repealed, because of local politics, not necessary to be explained.

Mr. Rhett desired that the qualification now made by the Senator should go out with his speech. The laws of Pennsylvania had not been repealed, nor would they be. The mercantile interests of Pennsylvania and New York might be in favor of executing the law, but the interior counties would never execute it.

Mr. Hale thought Mr. Pearce had mistaken the character of the first agitator, the devil. The devil went into Eden not as agitator, but to recover certain fugitives, which he demanded should be restored to him, to be carried into the slavery of hell. (Laughter.) Gentlemen all disclaimed agitation, but perhaps some of them liked a little agitation on the subject of coal, iron, and coarse cotton. (Laughter.) It was said that the men of the revolution were not agitators. If the bones of Washington were beneath the capitol, they would not rest easy—they carried agitation on sea and land—they made Boston harbor an agitated teapot. Truth need fear nothing from agitation. Truth was a rock which could not be moved; it was a rock which waves might wash but could not shake.

Mr. Pearce had no desire to continue the discussion of Biblical literature; but still considered the devil the first agitator, because he preached to the first woman to disobey the law.

Mr. Butler differed from Mr. Pearce as to the attributes of the first agitator. He did not consider him like one who declaimed in thundering oratorical orations; but he entered the Garden in the form of a serpent, and whispered a "higher law." (Laughter and applause.)

Mr. Foote read from Milton, to show that the devil commenced agitation by rebelling in heaven, for which he was hurled to hell.

Mr. Bradbury moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table. Rejected—Yeas 16, nays 33. The reference was reconsidered, and the petition was laid on the table.

THE BOSTON FUGITIVE SLAVE CASE.

Mr. Clay offered the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the President be requested to lay before the Senate, if compatible with the public interest, any information he may possess in regard to the alleged recent case of forcible resistance to the execution of the law of the United States in the city of Boston, and to communicate to the Senate what measures he has adopted to recover the possession, and whether, in his opinion, any additional legislation is necessary to meet the exigency of the case, and to more rigorously execute existing laws.

PEON SERVITUDE.

Mr. Seward offered the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the President be requested, if compatible with the public interest, to communicate any information he may possess concerning the forcible abduction of any citizen of the United States, or of any persons living under their protection, within the territory of New Mexico, and of his conveyance to be ordered into peon servitude in the republic of Mexico.

Both resolutions were laid over.

PETITIONS.

Mr. Hale presented a petition from New Jersey, for the repeal of the Fugitive Slave law—tabled.

KOSSUTH AND HIS COMPANIONS.

Mr. Foote introduced a joint resolution, authorizing a naval vessel to receive and bring to this country Kossuth and his companions.

THE POSTAGE BILL.

Mr. Rusk moved to take up the Postage bill, which, after debate, was agreed to.

Mr. Rusk offered a substitute for the bill.

Mr. Seward moved to amend so as to make a uniform rate of two cents on letters, to be prepaid in every instance.

Mr. Rusk advocated three cents prepaid and five cents if not.

Mr. John Davis advocated three cents.

Mr. Dayton agreed with Mr. Rusk.

Mr. Hamlin was in favor of Mr. Seward's amendment.

The Senate then adjourned.

House of Representatives.

BY BAIN'S ELECTRO-CHEMICAL TELEGRAPH.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17, 1851.

APPROPRIATION BILLS.

Mr. Bayly, (dem.) of Va., asked the general consent of the House to offer a resolution making the general appropriation bills the special order of the day for to-morrow, and to be continued until they shall be disposed of.

Mr. Stanley, (whig) of N. C.—What would become of the River and Harbor bill?

Mr. McLane, (dem.) of Md.—The resolution would cut it off.

Mr. Stanley.—I object.

Mr. Bayly moved to suspend the rules, but the motion did not prevail.

The House then went into committee on the

RIVER AND HARBOR BILL.

Mr. McLane, (dem.) of Md., closed the debate, and defended himself from Mr. Morse's charge of inconsistency, and defined what he regarded as democracy, namely, the right of the people, first, to govern themselves, and next, fixing the basis of representation on the white population; and he adverted to the constitution of South Carolina, to which, however, Mr. Burt objected; and then went on to support the bill and answer the objections.

Mr. Morse, (dem.) of La., replied to what he termed miserable sophisms of Mr. McLane, and characterized the bill as a part of the general system of internal improvement as anti-democratic, and repeated the charge of "inconsistency" against Mr. McLane.

Mr. McDonald, (dem.) of Ia., offered an amendment appropriating $50,000 for the improvement of the Wabash, which was rejected—ayes 32, noes 81.

Mr. Chase, (whig) of N. Y., offered an amendment, which, after debate, was agreed to, 58 to 46, appropriating $10,000 for the improvement of Sacketts Harbor, and removing a United States ship sunk there.

Mr. Howe, (free soil) of Penn., submitted an amendment appropriating $20,000 for a survey of the Alleghany river. This was debated, and afterwards declared to be out of order.

Mr. Mason (dem.) of Ky., moved to strike out the item appropriating ten thousand dollars for the improvement of the harbor at the mouth of Little Sodus bay. He did not propose to strike out the appropriation for Big Sodus bay—that is a big matter, and therefore within the scope. Little Sodus is not (Laughter.) As big objects are national, he intended to ask an appropriation for Big Sandy river—(laughter)—not for the Little Sandy, which was only navigable for flat boats.

Mr. Conger, (whig) of N. Y., said the gentleman was mistaken. The bay of Sodus is not small, though it bears the name of little. Col. Abert speaks of it as a highly important harbor, and there is a collector of customs there.

Mr. Mason's amendment was then disagreed to.

There was much confusion during the day, and various ineffectual motions made that the committee rise. The last, at 5 o'clock, was disagreed to, by 22 to 105.

Mr. Bayly, (dem.) of Va., noticed a remark which had been made by Mr. McGaughey, and denied that his object in endeavoring to make the general appropriation bill a special order, was to defeat the River and Harbor bill.

Mr. McGaughey.—I said such would be the effect.

Mr. Bayly remarked that the general appropriation bills are in great peril, and will be in greater peril to-morrow. There are but twelve days of the session left, and eleven general appropriation bills to be acted on. These bills have to go to the Senate, and the amendments acted on there, when they come back. He wished to say, in reference to the efforts to prolong discussion, under the five minutes rule, that he had stated twice that unless a different disposition be manifested, the general appropriation bills cannot pass, and a special session of Congress will become inevitable. Ten of eleven of the general appropriation bills have been reported, and not one of them has passed.

Mr. McLane, (dem.) of Md., said it was his anxiety to remain here, no matter how late, until the bill be reported to the House.

Voices—Agreed, agreed.

Mr. Bayly remarked that the observation was entirely unnecessary, and that he had exerted himself to get clear of this bill.

Mr. Ashmun, (whig.) of Mass., asked whether six motions to rise had not been made—all by democrats.

Mr. Venable, (dem.) of N. C., said he had made a motion to rise, and would do it again.

Mr. Bayly thought it necessary to answer the remark of Mr. Ashmun. He believed that the motions to rise did come from the democratic side of the House; but did not the gentleman know that this disposition originated in violating the rules of the House, in overriding which this bill was brought before them? He intended to propose that the committee rise; and if they should do so, he would offer a resolution that the House hereafter meet at 11 o'clock.

Mr. Wentworth—Wait till we get through the bill.

Mr. Bayly moved, but the committee refused to rise.

When the clerk read the clause appropriating twenty-five thousand dollars for the improvement of the channel in Charleston harbor,

Mr. Bray moved to strike it out but the motion did not prevail. Other amendments were offered and rejected.

Mr. McDonald, (dem.) of Ia., offered an amendment making an appropriation for the Wabash, and it was voted down.

Mr. McGaughey, (whig) of Ia., proposed to alter the amount, appropriating forty thousand dollars for this purpose, and made some remarks thereon.

Mr. Bayly desired to call attention to the fact that the gentleman, Mr. McGaughey, had declared that appropriations proper in themselves, so far as the country at large is concerned ought to be voted down.

Mr. McGaughey—I ask whether the gentleman was in favor of this bill? If there be a new Richmond in the field I will embrace the first opportunity to take his scalp. (Laughter.)

Mr. Bayly—The gentleman from Kentucky is the author of the suggestion; he trades on borrowed capital, and, according to General Jackson, ought to break. (Laughter.)

Mr. McGaughey's amendment was voted down.

Mr. Caldwell, (dem.) of Kentucky, offered an amendment, that the money appropriated by the bill is not to be expended, unless there shall be a surplus in the treasury on the 30th June, 1852.

Mr. Bayly moved to include the ten years' loan of forty-three. If this amendment be adopted, we will not have to borrow to carry the bill into effect. If rejected, we will have to borrow money, and he made this issue.

Mr. Houston arose.

Mr. Wentworth.—Don't speak five minutes.

Mr. Houston—I shall speak just as long as the rules allow. (Good, good, go on.) He then said, that for one, he was prepared to meet the issue. He had been asked, whether the whigs were willing to risk a loan and the contraction of a public debt for the purpose of carrying on these great public works. He was ready for it if necessity occurs. The amendment, as modified by Mr. Bayly, was rejected—ayes 47, noes 83.

Various amendments were discussed and voted down, and an ineffectual motion was made that the Committee rise.

Mr. McLane, of Md., offered a substitute for the bill, which was read, similar to the original.

Mr. Clarke, (whig) of N. Y., moved an amendment, appropriating $9,000 for the improvement of Sackett's Harbor and removal of a United States ship sunk there. He said it was merely for the government to do a simple act of justice, and restore the harbor to its former condition.

Mr. Bayly said he knew something about harbors, and undertook to remark what the gentleman complained of improved the harbor. (Laughter.) The object is an expenditure of money. If the bar had not been made by nature, the gentleman would have asked for a breakwater. (Laughter.)

A crowd gathered in the vicinity of these two gentlemen, and there was the greatest possible good humor.

Mr. Clarke said that the gentleman stands higher in his boots than any other gentleman, and wears his spectacles with greater precision and pomposity. (Laughter.)

Mr. Bayly—I ask to say one word.

Mr. Clarke went on. He wished to say to those who will deal justly, and prefer common sense to ridicule, that the improvement which the gentleman suggests renders it difficult for vessels to get in and to get out, except when the wind is in a particular direction. Does the gentleman think it is becoming to say that I ask for the money merely that it may be expended? Is there any necessity or warrant for the assertion? Is it becoming and kind to a person younger (laughter) than himself to indulge in ridicule? He appealed to the gentleman's magnanimity, coming from a State which once produced great men. (Laughter, in which the galleries joined.)

Mr. Bayly—I should be very much inclined to respond to the appeal of my youthful friend from New York, (laughter) who refers to his youth in comparison with my age, if it were not for the ungenerous fling he made at me. He spoke of my standing high in my boots, and of my spectacles on my nose. (Laughter.) The gentleman wears his on his head. (Increased laughter.) I wear mine for use. I should think but for his remarks about juvenility that his spectacles are worn on his head for ornament. As for standing high in my boots, I came here six feet, and I do not reproach the gentleman because he measures five feet four. (Laughter.)

The confusion was so great that the chairman had difficulty in restoring order. The amendment was rejected.

It was now half past nine o'clock, and being unable to come to a result, and wearied, the committee rose; and on motion of Mr. Bayly a resolution was adopted, changing the daily hour of meeting to 1 o'clock, and at 20 minutes past 10 the House adjourned.

NEW YORK LEGISLATURE.

Senate.

BY MORSE'S MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

ALBANY, Feb. 17, 1851.

PETITIONS.

For the bridging of Lake Champlain; for the amendment of the Plank Road law.

CITIES AND VILLAGES.

Mr. Cross, from the Committee on Cities and Villages, reported an important bill, restricting and regulating the power of municipal corporations in borrowing money and contracting debts.

BANK DIVIDENDS AND DEPOSITS.

Mr. Brandreth offered a resolution of investigation as to the dividends and deposits remaining unclaimed in the several savings banks, and other banks in the State, and appointing a committee of the Senate to go to the several cities and towns where banks are situated. He said he was in possession of undeniable evidence that there were upwards of $14,000,000 now in the banks, to which they had no right, which belonged to the State, and ought to be applied to the education of the people—a sum sufficient to defray the entire tax. He had found that upwards of three millions accumulated every year.

Mr. Williams thought the Senator advanced an old English idea—that everything belonged to the king. It was reviving the old doctrine of sequestration. So far as banks of discount are alluded to, there is a sufficient law now. He was not opposed to inquiry, but he was opposed to a sweeping sequestration.

Mr. Brandreth's resolution was laid on the table for examination by the bank committee.

The Senate then adjourned.

Assembly.

ALBANY, Feb. 17, 1851.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

From Nelson J. Beach, relative to the improvement of the canals; of citizens of New York, for securing the interests of the pilots, by the passage of the pending law; for the abolition of the free school law, and a State tax for the support of common schools; to protect the free citizens of this State from seizure or arrest; for the modification of the free school law; against any alteration of the law relative to the redemption of country bank notes; for the reduction of tolls on all railroads.

Mr. Varnum called up his resolutions approving of the measures of compromise, and advocating them.

The Speaker, agreeing with his colleague on many points, thought it unnecessary to pass any resolution; nor could he find any rule that gave a minority the right to compel the majority to act contrary to its manifest wish.

The debate was continued by Mr. Ward, who introduced new resolutions deprecating further action, &c. And the House adjourned.

Interesting Items from the South.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 17, 1851.

The mails from New Orleans, from the 6th to the 9th inst., are received. The papers contain flaming accounts of Jenny Lind's reception—the excitement is tremendous.

The South Carolina Convention election is all on one side—all conservatism repudiated. "Secession, and nothing but secession," is the cry.

The Jenny Lind auction at New Orleans exceeded anything before seen. From $10 to $30 premium per ticket was cheerfully paid.

A new election has been ordered for Governor of Mississippi. Quitman has been re-nominated.

The Hudson River.

TROY, FEB. 17, 1851.

The river has fell about three feet, but is still high, and clear of ice.

ALBANY, Feb. 17—8 P. M.

The ice in the river below this city is giving way.

NEWBURGH, Feb. 17—8 P. M.

The ice is clearing out of the river at this place, and the crossing is now good.

Passage of Railroad Bills.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 17, 1851.

The Pacific Hannibal and St. Joseph's railroad bill has passed both Houses of the Missouri Legislature.

TWO WEEKS LATER FROM CALIFORNIA.

ARRIVAL

OF THE

MEXICO AND PROMETHEUS,

AT

NEW ORLEANS.

NEW DISCOVERIES OF GOLD ON THE COAST.

MEETING OF THE LEGISLATURE

Election of David Broderick, President of the Senate.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

EARTHQUAKE IN CHILI.

THE MARKETS,

&c., &c., &c.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 14, 1851.

The steamship Mexico has arrived, with San Francisco dates to the 15th ultimo. She brings 334 passengers. She left Chagres on the 7th inst.

The Prometheus has also arrived, in five days from Chagres, with two hundred and seventy passengers. She went out to Chagres from New York, in seven days and thirteen hours—the quickest passage on record.

These steamers, it is to be supposed, have brought a considerable amount of gold dust.

The California Legislature assembled on the 6th of January. Gov. Peter H. Burnett had resigned, and Lieutenant Gover McDougall had been inaugurated in his stead.

David Broderick was elected President of the Senate. [Mr. Broderick is a well known democratic politician of this city, and run for Congress a few years ago.]

The Governor's message is a straight forward and sensible document. There had been no election of United States Senator; but it is supposed that a democrat would be chosen. This is indicated by the election of Broderick as President of the Senate.

Thos. Butler King, the new collector, had arrived at San Francisco.

There was great excitement on account of new discoveries of gold in the beach sands on the coast, of wonderful richness.

Other rich discoveries have also recently been made and the miners generally are doing well.

American flour is selling at $12 50—not paying the cost. Coffee is quoted at 14c.

The steamer Crescent City was to leave Chagres on the 8th inst. She will be due at New York on the 18th instant.

The Ohio, from New York, was spoken on the 8th inst. She will be due at New York on the 21st, with the California mails.

The city of Conception, in Chili, has been destroyed by an earthquake.

SHIP NEWS.

Annexed are some of the arrivals at San Francisco, between January 1 and 15:—

Ships Lebanon, Drew, New York, Aug 14; White Squall, Lockwood, do, Sept 5; Corsica, Melcher, Boston, May 10; Delhi, Barnes, do, June 22; York, Grover, Philadelphia, May 29; James Perkins, Williams, do, June 2; barks Wessagusset, Fabens, Boston, July 6; Pilgrim, Swift, New Bedford, May 24; brig Montezuma, Hadley, Boston, June 7; schr Oak Leaf, Thomas, do, March 4; Pilgrim, West, Philadelphia, June 11.

Sailing of the Falcon—Trial of General Henderson.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 15, 1851.

The steamship Falcon sailed to-day, with twenty passengers for New York, thirty-six for Havana, and sixty for Chagres.

General Henderson's third trial begins to-morrow.

Sailing of the Prometheus.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 15, 1851.

The United States mail steamship Prometheus will leave this port to-morrow morning, for New York.

New Jersey Legislature.

TRENTON, Feb. 17, 1851.

A joint resolution in respect to the true policy of the States respectively, in their choice of Senators and representatives in Congress, was introduced, setting forth, that in view of the danger to which the prosperity of the country was subjected to by a spirit of fanaticism, ambition of demagogues, and efforts of emissaries from abroad, the same can only be averted by waiving all minor differences, and selecting unflinching and reliable friends of the Union as representatives in Congress; and that the true policy is to select, as agents of the people in the Congress of the United States, men who are willing to support the compromises of the constitution, and such as, from their known character, the reminiscences of their parentage, private associations, and their previous services to the country, can be relied upon as firm and unwavering supporters of its interests, honor and integrity, and to discard all such as, from fanatical motives, or the influence of executive patronage, might be swayed to abandon the principles of compromise, in order that the motto, "E Pluribus Unum," may be continued applicable to this country.

No other important business has been transacted.

Pennsylvania Legislature, &c.

HARRISBURG, Feb. 17, 1851.

In the Senate, the joint resolutions, offering the thanks of the Legislature to the Hon. Daniel Webster for his able vindication of the principles of the American government in his letter to M. Hulsemann, the Austrian Minister at Washington, were laid on the table. The joint resolutions in relation to the granting of additional bounty lands to the officers and soldiers who served in the war of 1812, were passed.

In the House, various petitions were presented and referred.

On Saturday night last, four men were arrested near this place, charged with being concerned in the murder of a rich old farmer at his house. They are now in jail waiting examination.

Union Meeting at Cazenovia.

UTICA, Feb. 17, 1851.

The citizens of Cazenovia have had a meeting, at which they repudiated Gerrit Smith and his followers, requesting them not to hold any more of their incendiary meetings in that village. The meeting was the largest ever held in that place. Strong Union resolutions were passed.

Arrival of Senators.

LOUISVILLE, Feb. 17, 1851.

The Hon. Mr. Bissell, United States Senator from Illinois, and Mr. Rantoul, of Massachusetts, arrived here this morning, *en route* for Washington.

The Southern Mail.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 17, 1851.

No mail south of Petersburg to-night.

Meteorological Observations, Feb. 17.

BY MORSE'S LINE, OFFICE 16 WALL STREET, AND BAIN'S LINE, 29 WALL STREET.

AUBURN—At 8 A. M., cold but pleasant morning; wind west; thermometer 2.

SYRACUSE—At 8 A. M., clear and cold; some snow fell last night; wind southwest; thermometer 26. 8 P. M., very clear; wind southwest; thermometer 26.

OSWEGO—At 8 A. M., cloudy and cold; wind west; thermometer 18; barometer 30.65.

UTICA—At 8 A. M., cloudy and unpleasant; wind northwest; thermometer 33; barometer 30.170. 8 P. M., clear and mild; thermometer 30.

ALBANY—At 8 A. M., cloudy but pleasant; wind northeast; thermometer 27½; mercury in barometer 67; barometer 30.65. 8 P. M., clear and cold; wind southwest.

TROY—At 8 A. M., weather heavy but pleasant; wind light from northeast; thermometer 28. 8 P. M., clear and cold.

DETROIT—At 12 M., clear and cold; wind southwest; thermometer 26.

BUFFALO—At 8 P. M., weather mild and hazy; wind southwest; thermometer 33; barometer 29.70.

ROCHESTER—At 8 P. M., very clear, thawed during the day in the sun; wind west; thermometer 30.

BY THE ERIE LINE, OFFICE 5 HANOVER STREET.

FREDONIA—A 8 P. M., cloudy, and wind blowing a gale from southeast.

PIKE—At 8 P. M., clear, pleasant, and cold.

NUNDA—At 8 P. M., air cool and bracing.

DANSVILLE—At 8 P. M., sky cloudless.

JEFFERSON—At 8 P. M., clouding up, betokening a storm.

ITHACA—At 8 P. M., clouding up, with southeast wind.

OWEGO—At 8 P. M., weather cold and clear; wind east; thermometer 26.

BINGHAMTON—At 8 P. M., cold, clear, and pleasant; thermometer 28.

MONTROSE—At 8 P. M., mild and fine evening.

HONESDALE—At 8 P. M., clear and mild; thermometer 33.

NARROWSBURG—At 8 P. M., clear and cold; thermometer 24.

NEWBURGH—At 8 P. M., fine bracing air.

PEEKSKILL—At 8 P. M., mild and pleasant.

Excitement against Thompson, the Foreign Abolitionist, in Springfield, Mass.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS., Feb. 17, 1851.

The Hampden Hall was closed against Thompson, by the owners, through fear of damage. The selectmen gave notice to the owners that they would not be responsible for any injury done to it, if the meeting went on. No other place could be obtained, and consequently, he does not speak to-night. We presume an attempt will be made to have him speak on another day. This evening, some hundreds of men and boys crowded the streets between Hampden Hall and the Hampden House, where Thompson is stopping, making some little noise, but committed no overt acts against the peace. Probably all will pass off quietly to-night. Many have come from other towns to participate in the proceedings. Part of the Irish population have been excited against him, which, with other elements that have been and are at work, renders it highly probable that he will not be allowed to speak here, unless it may be in the day time.

SECOND DESPATCH.

SPRINGFIELD, Feb. 17—10½ P. M.

Washington Hall has been refused for Thompson to-morrow, and it is now doubtful if a suitable place can be obtained.

The crowd has thinned; but the real rioters, a strong and rowdy set, are making night hideous with drums, fifes, and bonfires.

A large bonfire has been started on Court square. Had the meeting gone on to-night, there would have been a terrible row.

Completion of the Columbus and Cincinnati Railroad.

COLUMBUS (Ohio), Feb. 17, 1851.

The Columbus and Cincinnati Railroad is so far completed that a train of cars will pass over the road to-day. About four hundred of our citizens, including the members of the Legislature, will go out in the train, to meet a deputation from Cincinnati.

Freshet at Honesdale.

HONESDALE, Pa., Feb. 17, 1851.

The large amount of rain that has fallen here the past two or three days, has caused a great freshet in the river, filling many cellars, and causing a suspension of divine service in the Presbyterian Church yesterday, by filling its basement with water.

Fire at Stittsville, Oneida Co., &c.

UTICA, Feb. 17, 1851.

The grist mill and tannery of H. Hauders was burnt last night. Loss $6,000; insured $3,000 in Rome Protection.

The dam of the Utica cotton mills at New Hartford, owned by J. A. Sherman and T. Hollister, was carried away by the high water yesterday morning. Loss on dam $1,000.

The large bridge at Middleville; Kast's bridge, near Herkimer, and the large bridge at Newport, were all carried away by the freshet. The Herkimer Hydraulic Co., have sustained considerable injury. The ice was never known to sweep down the creek in so thick and large bodies. Many logs and fences have been swept away.

From Rio Grande.

BOSTON, Feb. 17, 1851.

The bark Wyman, arrived at Salem from Rio Grande, reports that great preparations were making for the expected outbreak with Rossas. A large force had already been concentrated at Rio Grande, and the Wyman passed, on the bar, two vessels bound in with troops.

The Ohio River—Weather, &c.

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 17, 1851.

There is fifteen feet of water in the channel, and no indications at present of its becoming lower. The weather is now clear and cold.

RUMORED DEATH OF HON. HENRY A. WISE.—The Somerset (Md.) *Herald*, of Tuesday, contains the following rumor as being current in that latitude. We give it to our readers for what it is worth:—The death of this gentleman, in a duel with Mr. Finley, of Accomac county, Va., was recently reported at Carroll's Corner, in this county, on Saturday last. The intelligence was received by a small craft which anchored in Annamessex river on Friday afternoon. Rifles are alleged to have been used by the parties, from which circumstance we are of opinion that Mr. Finley was the challenged party. We only give the report as we received it, hoping it may prove unfounded.—*Milford (Del.) Beacon*, Feb. 14.

THE FUGITIVE SLAVE EXCITEMENT IN BOSTON.

Full Particulars of the Late Rescue of a Fugitive Slave by a Mob—Elizur Wright in the Van.

[From the Boston Daily Mail, Feb. 17.]

Our city, hitherto known for its respect and obedience to constitutional law, was on Saturday the scene of mob violence and open resistance, on the part of the colored population, to the Fugitive Slave law, by the assertion of the so called "higher law" of treason.

On Friday Mr. John Caphart, a citizen of Norfolk, Va., by virtue of a power of attorney from Mr. John De Bree, a purser of the U. S. Navy residing at Norfolk, appeared before Geo. T. Curtis, Esq., one of the U. S. Commissioners, and made a formal written claim for the arrest and extradition of an alleged fugitive slave known by the name of "Shadrach," to his owner Mr. De Bree, and by the name of "Fred," or "Frederick Wilkins" to his present employer at Taft's Coffee House. In consequence of this, a warrant was granted to the claimant for his appearance before the Commissioner at the U. S. Circuit Court room, forthwith, and by his attorney, Mr. Seth J. Thomas, was placed in the hands of Patrick Riley, U. S. Deputy Marshal, which was served upon the alleged slave at 11 o'clock A. M. on Saturday, by Mr. Riley, assisted by a person employed in the U. S. Marshal's office, in the following manner:—They proceeded to the Cornhill Coffee House, situated on the corner of Court avenue, not 500 yards from the court house, and called for a breakfast. They were served by Frederick, who is employed in this restaurant as waiter. They immediately told him that they had got a warrant against him, and wanted him to go with them to the court house. He inquired what the warrant was for, and was told that he would see when he arrived at the court house. He then asked to put on his coat, but was told that he could bring it with him and put it on while going to the court house. The officers, however, took him without it, and he appeared in the U. S. Court room with his linen apron on, when the Commissioner presently appeared. At the request of Frederick, Marcus Morton, Jr., an attorney, was immediately sent for and appeared, and soon after John G. King, Edward G. Loring, Charles List, S. E. Sewall and Charles G. Davis, of the "Committee of Safety," came in and spoke with "Shadrach," and volunteered their services in his defence.

SETH J. THOMAS appeared on behalf of the claimant. The arrest was soon reported in Brattle street, among the colored dealers in second-hand clothing, and other colored people occupied at no great distance from the court house; and in the space of thirty minutes from one hundred to one hundred and fifty of them had crowded into the court room, together with some fifty white persons, chiefly reporters, lawyers, free soil agitators and others. The prisoner was placed in the bar usually occupied by prisoners, with an officer at each side of him, and the Commissioner took his seat upon the Judge's bench. After some preliminary conversation, it was arranged that Mr. Sewall and Mr. Ellis Gray Loring should appear as counsel for the Slave.

The COMMISSIONER (addressing Mr. Sewall)—The question which requires immediate determination is, whether the hearing shall proceed now, or whether you wish for time.

Mr. SEWALL.—We have never heard of this case until within fifteen minutes, and we wish for a delay until Tuesday, at 10 o'clock, to make the necessary preparation.

Mr. THOMAS, (counsel for the claimant).—We wish for as short a time as is compatible with the interests of justice. There is nothing in the case but a question of identity.

Mr. SEWALL.—The question of identity is obviously one which no man ought to be called to meet so suddenly. Is it just, is it right, that we should be so called?

The COMMISSIONER.—There can be no question that you are entitled to a reasonable time. Mr Sewall. The sole question is, what is reasonable time, under all the circumstances. The statute directs that the hearing shall be "summary." I do not consider this to mean that the hearing