Maryland Reform Convention.

ANNAPOLIS, Feb. 5.

Messrs. Dorsey and Donaldson presented petitions of citizens of Howard district, that the same may be erected into a county, to be called Howard county. Referred to the select committee on that subject.

The convention then resumed the order of the day—being the report of the commitee on the Declaration of Rights.

The question being on the 13th article, as amended yesterday, on the motion of Mr. Kilgour, declaring poll taxes grievous and oppressive,

On motion of Mr. Donaldson, this article was passed over informally.

The 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, and 18th articles were severally adopted.

Mr. Dirickson moved to amend the 19th article by adding thereto the following: "and upon his trial his counsel shall have the privilege of making the closing address to the court or jury."

Mr. Dorsey moved to amend said amendment by "giving the State the same right to challenge jurors that the accused has."—This was rejected—ayes 25, nays 42.

Mr. Dirickson's amendment was debated by Messrs. Donaldson, Dirickson, Jenifer, Brent of Baltimore, Chambers of Kent, and Dorsey, when the question was taken and the amendment adopted by yeas 33, nays 28.

Mr. Brent, of Baltimore, moved to amend said article by adding thereto "that in criminal trials the jury shall decide the law as well as the facts in evidence, and the truth shall always be admissible in evidence."

Mr. Spencer moved the following amendment thereto, which Mr. B. accepted: —"All questions of law arising in the course of trial to be explained by the court before his defence shall be stated by counsel."

Mr. Presstman moved the following additional amendment, which Mr. B. also accepted:—"And the court may determine what is evidence proper to go to the jury."

The question was then taken on the said amendment of Mr. Brent, as amended by Messrs. Spencer and Presstman, and it was rejected—yeas 29, nays 38.

Mr. Spencer moved to amend said article by providing that parties on trial shall have all questions of law arising in the course of their trial explained by the court before their defence shall be stated by their counsel, which was also rejected—yeas 19, nays 26.

Said article was then adopted.

The 20th article was also adopted.

Mr. Brent, of Baltimore, moved to add to the 21st article the following:—"Nothing in this article of the Bill of Rights to apply to the free colored population of this State."

Mr. Merrick offered the following as a substitute therefor:

"Provided, That nothing in this article shall be so construed as to prevent the Legislature from passing all such laws for the government, regulation and disposition of the free colored population of this State as they may see fit."

Mr. Brent accepted the substitute.

The amendment of Mr. Merrick, accepted by Mr. Brent, was then adopted, and the Convention adjourned.

ANNAPOLIS, Feb. 6, 1851.

The Convention met, and on motion of Mr. Ridgely, proceeded to the order of the day, being the report of the Committee on the Declaration of Rights.

The question pending being on the 21st article as amended yesterday by Messrs. Brent, of Baltimore, and Merrick, said article was adopted. The 22d and 23d articles were also adopted.

The 24th article being under consideration, amendments were proposed thereto by Messrs. Jenifer, Dent and Merrick; when, on motion of Mr. Dent, said 24th article was stricken out, and the following, embracing the idea of said proposed amendments, substituted:—"That no conviction shall work corruption of blood or forfeiture of estate."

The 25th, 26th, 27th 28th and 29th articles were then adopted.

On motion of Mr. Brent, of Baltimore, the 30th article was amended by declarng that no Chancellor or Judge shall hold any other office, &c.

On motion of Mr. Ridgely, said article was further amended by inserting after the word "military" the words "political trust or employment of any kind whatsoever."

Mr. Brent, of Baltimore, moved further to amend said article by excluding any Chancellor or Judge from holding a seat in any future Convention, to revise or reform the Constitution the fact of qualifying as a member of any such Convention to vacate the commission of such Chancellor or Judge.

This was debated by Messrs. Chambers of Kent, Thomas and others, when Mr. Hicks moved to amend the same by excluding members of this Convention from holding any office or appointment under the new Constitution for ten years after its adoption, which was rejected—yeas 32, nays 39.

Messrs. Thomas and Chambers of Kent, made some further remarks, when Mr. Thomas moved to exclude also the Attorney General and all other civil officers created by the Constitution, which Mr. Brent accepted.

An amendment was moved by Mr. Jenifer, to apply the exclusion to "all practising lawyers." Negatived—yeas 29, nays 44.

Mr. Brent's amendment as amended by Mr. Thomas was then rejected—yeas 36, nays 37.

Said article was then adopted.

The 31st article was adopted.

Mr. Parke moved to amend the 32d article by inserting after "State" the following, "except as allowed elsewhere in this Constitution." Negatived and the article adopted.

Mr. Ridgely moved to amend the 33d article, by inserting after "estate" the words, "or suffer any civil or political incapacity."

Pending which amendment the Convention adjourned.

ANNAPOLIS, Feb. 7, 1851.

On motion of Mr. Randall, the committee on printing were authorized to prepare for the use of the Convention, as far as convenient, from the census returns, a synopsis of the relative increase or decrease of the free colored or slave population of the State.

Mr. Jenifer, chairman of Committee No. 14, reported articles providing for a Board of Public Works, to be composed of three commissioners, to be elected by the people, with salaries to be fixed by law, and not to be increased or diminished during their continuance in office. Two of them are to be from the Western and one from the Eastern Shore.

On motion of Mr. Biser, the Convention resumed the consideration of the order of the day—being the report of the Committee on the Declaration of Rights.

The question pending being the amendment proposed by Mr. Ridgely to the 23d article to wit:—After the word "estate" insert "or suffer any civil or political incapacity." After some remarks by Ridgely in favor of religious toleration,

Mr. Biser moved the following amendment to said article, to strike out from the word "liberty" and inserting; "therefore, no religious test shall be required as a qualification for office of trust; that the free exercise and enjoyment of religious professions and worship without discrimination or preference shall ever be allowed, and no person shall be an incompetent witness on account of religious belief, but the liberty of conscience hereby secured shall not be construed to excuse acts of licentiousness, or justify practices inconsistent with the peace or safety of the State."

Mr. Dorsey moved as substitute therefor, that no person shall be incompetent as a witness or juror, or disqualified from holding office, except as hereafter prohibited in the Constitution, who believes in the existence of a God, and that under His Dispensation such person will be held morally accountable for his acts, and be rewarded or punished therefor in this world or in the world to come. Mr. Biser accepted this.

The amendment offered by Mr. Dorsey and accepted by Mr. Biser, was then agreed to—yeas 42, nays 27.

Mr. J. Newcomer moved to strike out the word "duty" in the 1st line, and insert "privilege." Negatived.

Mr. Lee offered an amendment to said article, which was adopted, to insert after "worship" the word "parsonage." The article, as well also the 35th, finally adopted.

On motion of Mr. Chambers of Kent, the 36th article was stricken out from the word "oath" in the tenth line to the end thereof. Said 36th article was then adopted—also the 37th.

The 38th, 39th, 40th, and 41st articles were then adopted.

Mr. Thomas gave notice of a motion to reconsider the last article.

Mr. Davis moved an additional article, that the Legislature encourage, by all suitable means, associations for diffusing knowledge and virtue, for promoting literature, arts and *sciences, agriculture, commerce* and manufactures, and for the general amelioration of the wants and condition of the people.

Mr. Presstman moved to amend by making the encouragement of such societies by all constitutional means, but withdrew it, and the Convention adjourned.

ANNAPOLIS, Feb. 8, 1851.

Mr. Dorsey, chairman of the select committee on new counties, reported an article for the erection of Howard District of Anne Arundel county, into a county, by the name of Howard county, with the same rights and privileges as the other counties. Made the order of the day for next Wednesday.

Mr. Phelps gave notice of the following amendments to the report of the committee on the Legislative Department:

Strike out sections 2, 17 and 18, and insert:

Sec: 2. Senators to be elected for 4, and delegates for 2 years—sessions to be biennial.

Sec. 17. Bills for raising revenue or levying taxes to originate only in the House of Delegates, but the Senate may amend or reject them. Other bills to originate in either House.

Sec. 18. A concurrent vote of a majority of each House required to pass any law. And to add as new articles:

Citizens who may be concerned directly or indirectly in fighting a duel, in or out of the State, to be disqualified from holding any office of trust or profit.

No new lottery grant to be authorized by the Legislature.

Making it the duty of the Legislature to provide for settling differences by arbitration in cases where the parties prefer it.

All property of the wife owned or claimed by her before marriage, or that acquired by gift, devise or descent, shall be her separate property, and laws shall be passed to more clearly define the rights of the wife in relation to her separate property.

The chair announced the order of the day, being the Bill of Rights. On motion of Mr. Crisfield, it was postponed. Adj'd

ANNAPOLIS, Feb 10.

The Convention resumed the consideration of the order of the day—being the report of the committee on the Declaration of Rights. The pending question being on the additional article proposed by Mr. Davis, as the 42d. He withdrew said article, and offered the following in lieu thereof, which was adopted:

Art. 42d. The Legislature ought to encourage the diffusion of knowledge and virtue, the promotion of literature, the arts, sciences, agriculture, commerce and manufactures, and the general melioration of the wants and condition of the people.

On motion of Mr. Parke, the following was adopted as the 43d article—"The enumeration of rights shall not be construed to impair or delay others retained by the people."

The Convention then took up the 13th article, which had been passed over informally, after the adoption of an amendment declaring poll taxes grievous and oppressive.

Mr. Randall moved to amend said article by making taxes applicable to all real and personal property within the State; or in other words, to re-enact the 13th article of the existing Bill of Rights.

This gave rise to a highly interesting debate on the subject of taxation and the description of property to be taxed, which was participated in by Messrs. Randall, Thomas, Donaldson, Tuck, J. Newcomer, Gwinn, Wells, Bowie, Merrick, Spencer and Dorsey. The amendment was rejected.

Mr. Tuck proposed a substitute for the article, which was also rejected.

Mr. Schley offered amendments to said article which were likewise rejected. Adjourned.

ANNAPOLIS, Feb. 11, 1851.

Mr. Gwin presented a memorial of H. J. Scarff and others, members of the Marion Total Abstinance Society of Baltimore, for soms constitutional protection for the cause of Temperance Referred to Legislative Committee.

On motion of Mr. Phelps, the Committee on Representation and Apportionment were directed to inquire into the property of so changing the present basis of representation in the House of Delegates, as to take one member from each county, and city of Baltimore.

The Convention then resumed the consideration of the order of the day—being the report of the Committee on the Declaration of Rights.

Mr. John Newcomer proposed the following substitute for the preamble: "We, the people of the State of Maryland, by our delegates in Convention assembled at the city of Annapolis, taking into our most serious consideration the best means of establishing a good Constitution in this State, declare." This was adopted as a substitute, and then as a preamble to the Bill of Rights.

On motion of Mr. Spencer, said report was ordered to be printed with the amendments adopted thereto.

Mr. Bowie, chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, made a lengthy report from said committee, which was ordered to be printed and made the order of the day for the 24th inst.

On motion of Mr. Harbine, the Convention then took up the report of the Committee on the Legislative Department, which was read and laid over till to-morrow.

ANOTHER FUGITIVE SLAVE CASE.—Mahala Williams, a colored woman, with six children, was arrested in Philadelphia on Thursday, as the slave of Wm. T. J. Purnell, of Worcester county, Maryland.—The Bulletin says:

It is admitted by the claimant that she has been absent from him since 1829—Her children were born in this State, and the eldest daughter appears to be about 17 years of age. Her husband is in custody of the law, and it is alleged that he is the slave of another person in the same county, who will probably claim him, as he is now in this city.

Mahala was arrested in Kensington.—She resided there, and we were informed that her husband owns the house in which she lived. She has been a member of the Union Methodist Church since the birth of her first child, and is apparently about 40 years of age. There was no excitement manifested, although some thirty or forty colored persons were present.

The long absence of the alleged slave from her claimant, (22 years) will no doubt give rise to several nice points of law, whether claimed as a chattel, or to have passed as real estate, as we believe is the case in some of the Southern States.

At about one o'clock, Judge Kane issued a habeas corpus, at the instance of D. P. Brown, returnable forthwith. The process to arrest the alleged fugitive was issued by Commissioner Ingraham, and placed in the hands U. S. Marshal's Deputies Smith and Halzell, accompanied by Constable Agen. At half-past 1 o'clock the woman was surrounded by five of her children, three of whom are mere infants. Mr. McIntire appeared for the claimants, and Mr. Brown for the woman. The hearing, however, was postponed till Friday.

DISCHARGE OF A FUGITIVE SLAVE.—*Great Rejoicing.* Euphemia Williams, the alleged fugitive slave of Mr. Purnell, of Worcester county, Md, arrested in Philadelphia a few days ago, was discharged on Saturday, the court deciding that the claimant had failed to identify her. The Ledger says:

A slight attempt at applause in the court-room was promptly suppressed. The intelligence of the discharge of the woman was quickly spread to those without, who raised loud shouts of joy. The woman, with her children, was hurried into a carriage, which was driven to the Philadelphia Institute, in Lombard street, above Seventh. Here she was introduced to a large audience of colored people, who hailed her appearance with lively joy; several excited speeches were made, and great enthusiasm was manifested in and outside of the building and the adjacent streets.

When Euphemia came out, the horses were taken out of the carriage, a long rope was attached, which was taken by as many colored people as could well get hold of it, and the woman and her children were thus conveyed to her home. The procession was accompanied by several hundreds of men, women and boys. They dragged the carriage past the residence of the counsel for the respondent, cheering them by huzzas of the wildest kind, and then took the vehicle and its contents to the residence of the woman, Germantown Road, beguiling the way with songs and shouts. The whole scene was one of wild, ungovernable excitement, produced by exhuberance of joy.

THE CASE OF HENRY LONG.—The Abolitionists of New York City, have instituted a suit in the Supreme Court, before Chief Justice Oakley, against Chas. M. Hall, who acted as Commissioner, and issued the warrant for the arrest of Long.—The action is brought for the arrest.

EASTON GAZETTE.

EASTON, Md.

SATURDAY MORNING, FEB. 15, 1851.

☞ WM. THOMSON & Co., S. E. corner of Baltimore & Calvert Streets, Baltimore, are our authorized Agents for receiving Advertisements and Subscriptions for the "GAZETTE."

☞ V. B. PALMER is authorized to receive advertisements for the "EASTON GAZETTE," in the cities of New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore.

GEN. SCOTT FOR PRESIDENT.—The Whigs of the Indiana Constitutional Convention have recommended Gen. Scott as the Whig candidate for the Presidency.

FEARFUL DEATH OF A ROPE WALKER.—Herr Reyninger, a wire performer, in attempting to walk from the tower of the capitol, in Baton Rouge, La., on the 5th inst., fell and was killed.

WE have received the first number of a new paper called the Weekly Herald, published in Chestertown by M. M. Simpson. It is Democratic in politics, of good size, and presents a fair appearance.

U. S. SENATORS.—Gen. Cass has been re-elected to the Senate for six years from the 4th of March next, by the Legislature of Michigan.

The Legislature of Ohio has adjourned *sine die*, without being able to elect a Senator.

APPOINTMENT.—Mr. Thomas Hughey of Centreville has been appointed Register of Wills for Queen Anne's County, by Gov. Lowe. He entered upon the duties of his office on Tuesday week.

Wm. T. Maddox has been reappointed Clerk of St. Mary's county.

SENTENCED TO BE HUNG.—Brinkley Bishop, who was tried in Bibb county, Geo., last week, for killing Thomas Smith, a year ago last December, has been found guilty of murder and sentenced to be hung on the 28th inst., the same day on which Grinnum is to be hung in this county.

JOHN A. QUITMAN, Governor of Mississippi, resigned his office on the 3d inst., and started for New Orleans on the following day, to answer to the charges preferred against him relative to his connection with the Cuban expedition. The Hon. Mr. Guion, Whig, President of the Senate, was inducted into office as Governor on Wednesday, the 5th, by subscribing to the constitution and taking the oath of office.

JENNY LIND.—Barnum, with Jenny Lind and suite, arrived at New Orleans on the 7th inst., from Havana. An immense crowd was on the wharf to welcome her, which they did in the most enthusiastic manner. A dispatch says the wharves and pavements where the boat landed were carpeted for the "divine songstress" to walk upon! We did not think that any portion of the people of the United States could make such donkeys of themselves.

CONGRESS has accomplished very little during the past week. On the 6th Mr. Winthrop presented the credentials of Mr. Rantoul, his successor, which had been sent to him by the Governor of Massachusetts, and retired from the Senate. Mr. Rantoul not appearing to take his seat, Mr. Clay raised the question of privilege, contending that Mr. Winthrop was entitled to his seat until the appearance or acceptance of his successor. The question was debated for two days, and then passed over.

The House has been engaged in discussing the Senate bill creating a Board of Accounts to decide and act upon all claims against the United States—on Tuesday it was rejected. Although but about two weeks of the session remain, there is much to be done—the general appropriation bills, the French Spoliation bill, the bill to establish a line of Steamers to Africa, the cheap postage bill, and numerous bills of a private or local character, yet remain to be acted upon by one House or the other. The members, however, appear to think they have plenty of time.

THE MAGAZINES.

Littell's Living Age is regularly received.—It is the best periodical published, containing interesting reviews, choice tales, able articles on European politics, poetry, &c. &c. Published weekly by E. Littell & Co., Boston, at $6 a year.

Graham's Magazine, for March is called, in the publisher's notice accompanying it, "a surprise number," and it well deserves the name. It makes its appearance in an equally novel garb and attractive character—without "pictures," except a few very finely executed wood-cut illustrations—without even a fashion plate; these customary ornaments being, for once, substituted by 144 pages of original literary matter (it cost, we learn, $1500.) The April number, will present its former decorated appearance, and be expensively and splendidly illustrated.

Godey's Lady's Book, for March, is also received, illustrated by numerous elegant and spirited engravings, among which is a magnificent flower piece, printed in colors. The reading matter is of the highest order, interesting, chaste and original. Godey is hard to beat.

Both of these Magazines are published in Philadelphia, at $3 per annum.

DEATH OF GEO. R. RICHARDSON, ESQ.—We regret to announce the demise of Geo. R. Richardson, Attorney General of Maryland, who died in Baltimore on Monday last. Some four weeks since he was attacked with inflammatory rheumatism, but under medical treatment he had nearly recovered. An imprudent exposure then brought on an attack of erysipelas, which, together with congestion of the lungs, rapidly prostrated him, and terminated his existence at the time above stated. Resolutions and other testimonials of respect were adopted by the Bar and Court of Baltimore city and county, by whose members he was held in the highest esteem. The Clipper gives the following brief biography:

Mr. Richardson was born in Worcester county, in this State, on the 17th of February, 1803, & consequently would have been 48 years of age on next Monday. At the age of twenty one he was admitted to practice (February 14th, 1825,) in Baltimore County and City Courts, having studied law in part under David Hoffman, Esq., and attended the course of law lectures given by Judge Dorsey. He was not, however, a regular student to any member of the bar. On July 30, 1836, he was appointed Deputy Attorney General of Baltimore City Court, by the Hon. Josiah Bayly, then Attorney General of Maryland, and on Mr. Bayly's resignation of that post in 1845, Governor Pratt appointed Mr. Richardson Attorney General of Maryland, which post he held at his death—He was also for several years prior to 1836 an active member of the Executive Council of Maryland.

Of Mr. Richardson's talents and reputation as a criminal and civil lawyer, it is hardly necessary for us to speak, so well were they known and appreciated, not only in this community, but throughout the State. His civil practice was lucrative; but it was as a criminal prosecutor that he so greatly excelled. With a capacity and a peculiar talent for obtaining facts from a witness, extracting the truth and detecting prevarication and falsehood, he could arrange and digest the whole testimony with a skill and effect rarely equalled and seldom excelled by any one—certainly by no one in Maryland. Of his powers of eloquence before a jury, thousands can bear witness. Maryland has indeed lost one of her most talented sons.

A SAD AFFAIR.—On Friday Morning a lady in Lombard street, near Harford Run, had occasion to send to an apothecary for some paragoric and syrup of squills, for her infant, about two weeks old The medicine was brought and the lady gave her infant a dose, which was the last required, as the child died; laudanum had been sent in place of paragoric. The mother, Mrs. Shiver, has been almost in a crazy state ever since.

The apothecary involved says that the young lady who purchased the medicine asked for laudanum and syrup of squills, and persisted that it was laudanum she wanted, although told by the apothecary that it was a very unusual compound. The bottle was labeled correctly, which label remained on the bottle, he stated, till yesterday, and still remains there, unless purposely removed. Unfortunately, the person who administered the medicine could not read, or the sad occurrance would not have happened.—*Sun of Wednesday.*

OUTRAGEOUS RIOT AND POLICEMAN SHOT.—Yesterday afternoon about 1 o' clock, two gangs of young desperadoes, numbering perhaps fifty aside, and familiarly known as 'Thunderbolts' and 'Stingers, came in collision on the corner of Pratt and Green streets, which resulted in a most outrageous and disgraceful riot, during which, sticks and stones, and even fire arms were wielded with fury and rage.—The battle, however, was not of long duration, for officers Hough, Standfield and Crangle were soon on the ground, and with some little difficulty dispersed the parties. Some of the boldest, however, disputed the authority of the officers and resisted their interference with revolvers loaded with ball. One of these, aged about fifteen, named George Moreland, is charged with deliberately turning upon his heel whilst in the act of running off, and drawing his revolver, aimed at officer Crangle and fired with the boldness of a highwayman. The ball passed through the upper part of the face, entering under the left eye and lodging in the back of the neck. Fortunately the large blood vessels were not cut, but the upper jaw and cheek bones are badly fractured. The amount of injury can hardly yet be ascertained as very important parts are there deep seated. Dr. Gilman was called in, who cut for and extracted the ball from the neck, and who is now rendering him every attention.—The offender was arrested by officers Hough and Standfield, who also took into custody the brother of the accused, James Moreland, a young fellow aged about twenty years. They were both taken to the western district police office and underwent examination by the mayor, who committed them both for a further examination, one on the charge of shooting the officer, and the other to answer for aiding and abetting his brother in committing the outrage—*Baltimore Sun of Monday.*

TRADE BETWEEN BALTIMORE AND THE SOUTH.—The Fayetteville (N. C.) Observer says:—

The vastly increased importance of Baltimore is beginning to arrest the attention of Southern merchants, who feel that there is no danger of their fostering an enemy to their rights and interests, by dealing with a Baltimore merchant.

As an evidence of the growth of this feeling, we refer to the advertisement in another column of a line of six schooners just established between Wilmington and Baltimore. We hope it will meet with such encouragement as to put the enterprize upon a permanent and prosperous footing.

A line of steam propellers is about to be established between Charleston and Baltimore. The funds have been raised for building two steamships of 700 tons each.

ITEMS OF NEWS.

OUTRAGE.—At Cambridge, Md., Mr Jos. R. Stewart, whilst returning home last Thursday night, was attacked by two villains, who cut his hand, vest and coat.—He very bravely repelled the charge.

DEATH OF A VETERAN.—James Kelly, aged 90 years, died at his residence, 8 miles south of Grantsville, Allegany County, on Tuesday last. He is supposed to have been the oldest man in the County.

LOSS OF A SHIP.—The Ship Nonantum, of Boston, from Baltimore, for California, with coal, took fire on the 1st November, and put into Faulkland Islands. She was scuttled, and is a total loss.

ARREST FOR FORGERY.—G. Clinton Tompkins, a cousin of Ray Tompkins, the defaulting New York broker, has been arrested in that city, charged with forging checks on various persons.

COL. WELLER.—Col. Weller has sent home $12,000 from California, to pay a part of his defalcation as Fund Commissioner of Butler county, Ohio. He is engaged in practising law at San Francisco. His indebtedness yet is $4,933.

A Havana letter of the 3d instant states that Maj. Hobbie, the late Assistant Postmaster General, now on an official visit to Cuba, has succeeded in making such arrangements as will facilitate the correspondence between the United States and the West India Islands by the way of Havana.

A letter from Havana in the New York Tribune states that an American citizen by the name of Sift, has been sentenced to six years in the "chain-gang," for having been found drunk in the street, armed with a revolver and a bowie-knife. This person has represented himself as being from Washington and Baltimore.

IMPROVEMENTS IN CECIL COUNTY.—A steam saw-mill and plaster mill have lately been put in operation at Point Herman, near Chesapeake city, on the property of Robert H. Thomas, Esq. A manufacturing company have also commenced at the same place a large cotton factory, to be driven by steam, likewise.

PLEAD GUILTY.—Wm. McCadden, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, plead guilty in Philadelphia, on Thursday, to the charge of manslaughter, in producing the death of a young lady named Neill, by given her a wrong prescription. C. J. Chamberlane, charged with the same offence, was acquitted.

DESPERATE MURDER.—A man mamed Johnson was shot dead near the village of Belfast, N. Y., on the 5th inst. He was going to a mill with a load of grain, and overtook a man, who asked permission to ride, which was refused by Johnson He had gone on but a few rods when the man fired upon him with a rifle. The ball passed through the arm of a man who was on the load with Johnson, and then through Johnson's lungs. The villain has been arrested.

NIAGARA SUSPENSION BRIDGE.—The Toronto Patriot says the bridge between Lewiston, N. York, and Queenstown, in Canada, near the Falls of Niagara, was so far completed on Thursday last, that the engineer and a large number of people crossed to the American side, when upon reaching *terra firma*, they were enthusiastically received by the spectators who had assembled. The bridge is the largest structure of its kind in the United States.

PHILADELHIA, Feb. 10—9, P. M.

Fatal Accident.—While a number of workmen were engaged this afternoon in the Lager beer vault, situate on the Germantown road, taking away the supporters to the circular roof, the entire brick work fell in, burying seven persons beneath it. Two were instantly killed, and the other five were dug out, each more or less injured

OWEGO, N. Y., Feb. 8th.

Awful Murder and Subsequent Surrender of the Culprit.—A horrible and brutal murder occurred in this village about 7½ o'clock, this evening. The name of the guilty is John M. Thurston, a cabinet maker, who killed his brother-in-law, a Mr. Garrison a very respectable mechanic, with an axe, while himself and wife were making a call at Thurston's house. The particulars of the affair are not known.—The murderer subsequently surrendered himself to the authorities.

FIRES.—We learn from the Hagerstown Herald that on Saturday last, the carpenter shop and dwelling house of Mr. Elias Stouffer, situated in Funkstown, was burnt to the ground. The fire accidentally originated in the carpenter shop, and spread with so much rapidity, that Mr. S's tools and nearly all the furniture and clothing in the houses were consumed. The dwelling of W. Falkwell, near Clearspring, was also consumed on Friday, with nearly all his furniture.

THE CHESTER COUNTY MURDER.—*Conviction of Pharoah.*—On Saturday last George Pharoah, charged with killing Miss Rachel Sharpless, a school teacher, near West Chester, Pa., was found "guilty of murder in the first degree."

The facts of the case were published at the time of the murder. There is one fact which came out on the trial that we do not remember to have heard before, to wit: George Pharoah told one of the boys in the neighborhood that he had been near the school house that morning and saw the dead body of Rachel Sharpless, but was afraid to go near it, and that there was nobody near when he saw it. He also told to a person he met on the road, on the morning of the murder, and before the dead body was found, or it was known a murder had been committed, that Miss Sharpless had been shot with a large gun while she was unlocking the door of the school house. To another person he said, he would be a fool to own it and be hung, &c. This George Pharoah is a nephew of Jabez Boyd, who was convicted and hung for the murder of Wesley Patton in Chester county some five or six years ago.

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